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INTRODUCTION.

It is now five years since the First Volume of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK* for the year 1845 was published; and this Volume is the fifth of the series. We avail ourselves of the opportunity which the occasion affords, of expressing our grateful acknowledgements to many Correspondents who have kindly suggested improvements; and assure them that their several wishes have been attended to, as far as our space affords. This Volume will be found to contain fully the usual variety of information.

The *ILLUSTRATIONS* heading the *CALENDARS* are from the pencil of *RICHARD DOYLE, Esq.*, and are engraved by *DALZIEL*.

The *CALENDAR* and *SECOND PAGE* of every Month, as well as all relating to *Astronomy, Meteorology, and Science*, have been under the superintendence of *JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., F.R.A.S.*, and of the *Royal Observatory at Greenwich*.

The *ILLUSTRATIONS* ON THE *THIRD* AND *FOURTH PAGES* OF EVERY MONTH are from the pencil of *B. FOSTER, Esq.*, and engraved by *VIZITELLY*.

The *WHOLE OF THE MATTER* CONTAINED IN THE *THIRD* AND *FOURTH PAGES* OF EVERY MONTH is from the very able pen of the well-known writer upon *Country Scenes, &c.*, *THOMAS MILLER, Esq.*

The remarks upon *GARDENING* are from the well-known Authoress, *Mrs. LOUDON*; and the *DOMESTIC HINTS* are by *M. SOYER*.

We deem it unnecessary to repeat the explanations which we have already given in the Introduction to the preceding Volumes, as they apply equally well to this; and shall, therefore, only notice the additional explanations required by the additional information.

CALENDARIAL PAGES.—The time the Sun souths is given every day, in common clock time, or the time a watch or clock should shew, when the Sun is on the meridian or due south. In preceding Volumes these numbers were given under the head of "Equation of Time;" and they can be used as directed in those Volumes, by considering that "After 12 o'clock" is equivalent to Add, and "Before 12 o'clock" is equivalent to Subtract.

The altitudes of the Sun and Moon, when due South at London, whose latitude is $51\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, are given every day. These numbers will answer equally well for any other place, by taking into account the difference of latitude between London and that place. At all places whose latitude is the same as at London, no alteration is needed; at those places situated N. of London, the numbers are to be decreased; and at places situated S. of London, they are to be increased. Thus the latitude of Edinburgh is 56° nearly, being $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ nearly N. of London; and if the numbers in this Almanack be diminished by $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, they would give the altitudes of the Sun and Moon above the horizon, when they are on the meridian of Edinburgh.

THE THERMOMETER.

THIS instrument was invented about the beginning of the 17th century, and is still one of the most important instruments used in Natural Philosophy. By its means it is ascertained that all bodies, on being heated, increase in volume, in a different proportion for each. The change is scarcely visible in solid bodies, and they, as well as liquids, expand unequally by equal increments of heat. Mercury approaches more nearly to equality in its rate of expansion, and remains liquid through a longer range of temperature, and is, therefore, justly preferred to water, oil, alcohol, &c., for thermometric purposes. A common thermometer is a tube of very small diameter, terminating at one of its ends by a cylindrical reservoir, so that very minute expansions of the mercury in the reservoir or bulb may be rendered perceptible. In order to obtain the value of these variations, a graduated scale is fixed along the tube. These scales, unfortunately, are different in different countries—to be spoken of presently. In order, however, that each observer may trace these divisions himself, it was necessary that two points of invariable temperature should be determined; and after a long time, and many attempts, it was found that the temperatures of water just freezing and water boiling were always the same. Both these points, however, were long disputed; and even late in last century it was believed that water at Naples began to freeze when the thermometer was 10 degrees above the freezing point, as shown by a thermometer constructed in England by the directions of the Royal Society (see Dr. Cuyll's papers in the "Philosophical Transactions," No. 424, page 336; No. 430, page 189; No. 434, page 407, 408). The fixedness of the freezing point was at last established, and the erroneous idea was abandoned, that he further north, the greater degree of cold it took to freeze water. The subject occupied the attention of M. Amontons (see *Mémoires de l'Académie*, 1702, page 204, &c.), Mr. Boyle (see his *Experiments on Cold*), Dr. Halley, Newton, Dr. Derham, &c., and ultimately the fixedness of the boiling point of water was determined, by taking into account the varying pressure of the atmosphere. Thus this beautiful instrument was perfected.

Thermometers used for meteorological researches are wholly surrounded by the atmosphere, and therefore the mercury in both the stem and bulb are affected by the temperature of the air. The bulbs of those used for chemical purposes are generally only plunged into the liquid. The portion of the stem not immersed in the liquid is not influenced by the heat; and, therefore, the scales of both meteorological and chemical thermometers ought to be graduated differently: the former should be totally immersed in boiling water, whilst the bulb of the latter only should be so immersed, on determining the values of their scales.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, several thermometers have been read at every even hour, both night and day, during the years 1841 to 1847, excepting on Sundays, Good Fridays, and Christmas-days; and the following are the monthly values of the temperature of the air, as compiled from the published volumes of the Greenwich Observations, and the Registrar-General's Reports:—

MONTHLY MEAN TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR AT GREENWICH.

MONTHS.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
January	33.6*	32.9	39.9	39.1	38.3	43.7	37.0
February	35.3	40.8	36.0	35.2	32.7	43.9	35.5
March	46.2	44.9	42.9	41.5	35.2	43.3	41.4
April	47.0	45.2	47.1	51.7	46.3	47.1	45.3
May	56.8	53.2	52.2	52.9	49.4	54.6	56.4
June	56.4	62.9	56.3	60.7	60.7	65.2	58.0
July	60.5	60.2	60.9	61.4	59.8	64.5	65.4
August	60.5	65.4	62.1	57.7	57.3	63.2	62.1
September ..	58.1	56.4	59.5	56.9	53.6	60.1	54.3
October	48.8	45.4	48.0	49.5	50.2	50.5	52.9
November	42.7	42.8	43.8	44.0	45.8	46.0	46.9
December	40.5	45.0	43.9	33.0	41.7	32.9	42.8

The mean temperatures for the years 1841 to 1847 are $48^{\circ}7'$, $49^{\circ}6'$, $49^{\circ}4'$, $48^{\circ}6'$, $47^{\circ}6'$, $51^{\circ}3'$, and $49^{\circ}5'$ respectively.

The following table shows the *highest observed temperature* in each month:—

MONTHS.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
January	53.0	46.8	57.0	53.7	51.3	55.3	52.7
February	54.6	53.2	51.9	50.4	48.5	62.3	55.0
March	66.9	60.5	63.7	60.2	59.4	58.0	64.2
April	76.5	73.7	70.8	74.9	70.3	63.0	63.8
May	82.8	74.7	69.5	77.4	68.2	84.3	86.2
June	78.5	87.4	79.3	87.6	86.0	91.1	80.4
July	76.0	78.8	89.8	87.4	83.3	92.3	89.0
August	79.6	90.5	82.8	75.4	77.8	92.0	87.3
September ..	79.6	75.8	79.9	78.0	73.5	86.4	72.5
October	64.6	60.9	70.4	67.4	67.6	67.7	73.2
November	58.3	55.9	57.5	58.1	59.6	61.5	66.3
December	53.9	58.2	54.7	49.3	55.5	49.9	59.5

* It will be borne in mind that in reading these numbers the figure to the right of the point shows the number of tenth parts of one degree; therefore, the number ranging with January, 1841, is to be read 33 degrees, and 6 tenths of a degree, and so for all the other numbers.

The following table shows the *lowest observed temperature* every month:—

MONTHS.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
January	4.0	23.2	24.0	18.8	24.4	29.4	23.0
February	12.4	26.4	20.3	20.0	7.7	26.9	10.2
March	29.5	29.9	26.5	24.1	13.1	26.5	16.9
April	31.8	28.0	27.2	33.4	29.5	33.3	27.0
May	41.2	36.4	37.3	33.9	34.4	38.3	36.0
June	40.3	44.7	42.9	43.4	43.8	49.4	41.0
July	41.3	45.5	44.6	47.1	44.6	49.1	45.4
August	45.5	47.5	47.2	42.8	43.2	47.5	42.0
September ..	36.6	41.1	34.0	34.8	33.4	39.2	32.0
October	32.2	28.3	28.5	30.8	31.4	35.0	33.0
November	22.6	31.1	27.4	27.4	29.1	23.4	24.5
December	24.3	30.8	25.6	21.1	28.0	18.8	25.0

For the other Meteorological elements belonging to an English year, we refer to the article on *Meteorology* in last year's Almanack, and to the Eighth Annual Report of the Registrar-General, recently published.

ON THE GRADUATION OF THE SCALES OF THERMOMETERS.

The graduation of Fahrenheit is used by the English; that of Reaumur by the Germans; that of Celsius by the French, calling it *thermomètre centigrade*; and that of De Lisle by the Russians. The following are the readings for the freezing and boiling points of water upon those scales:—

	Fahr.	Reaumur.	Centigrade.	De Lisle.
Freezing points	32°	0°	0°	150°
Boiling points	212°	80°	100°	0°

Therefore, the number of degrees included between the freezing and boiling points of water, in Fahrenheit's scale, is 180° ; in Reaumur's, 80° ; in the centigrade, 100° ; and in De Lisle, is 150° . So that 9° of Fahrenheit, 4° of Reaumur, 5° centigrade, and $7\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ of De Lisle are equal to each other. One degree upon Fahrenheit's scale is therefore the smallest, and one on that of Reaumur's is the largest.

The division "0°" on all the scales is called Zero; and the degrees graduated below this point are called *minus*, and have the minus sign (—) affixed to them. In the Reaumur and centigrade scales, whose Zeros are at the freezing point of water, great care is necessary to be paid, to prevent the readings below Zero being mistaken for those above.

Different countries, adopting these different scales, cause a great deal of trouble; and is a fruitful source of error in comparing the temperature of different places, as registered by these differently graduated instruments. It is much to be desired, that all nations would use one and the same scale; but there is no hope of this being done.

As these different scales exist, it is desirable to have a ready means of converting a reading of one of these scales into its equivalent reading in another; and this may be done by the following rules:—

To reduce Fahrenheit's scale to Reaumur's, when the reading is above 32° .—Take 32° from the reading, multiply the difference by 4, and divide the product by 9.

To reduce Fahrenheit's scale to Reaumur's, when the reading is below 32° .—Take the reading from 32° , multiply the difference by 4, divide the product by 9, and affix the minus sign (—).

To reduce Reaumur's scale to that of Fahrenheit, when the reading is above the freezing point.—Multiply the reading by 9, divide the product by 4, and add 32° to the quotient.

To reduce Reaumur's scale to that of Fahrenheit, when the reading is below the freezing point.—Multiply the reading by 9, divide the product by 4, and take the quotient from 32° .

To reduce Fahrenheit's reading to Centigrade, when the reading is above the freezing point.—Take 32° from the reading, multiply the difference by 5, and divide the product by 9.

To reduce Fahrenheit's reading to Centigrade, when the reading is below the freezing point.—Take the reading from 32° , multiply the difference by 5, divide the product by 9, and affix the minus sign (—).

To convert the readings of the Centigrade scale into those of Fahrenheit.—Proceed exactly as in the case of Fahrenheit into Reaumur, except using 5 instead of 4.

To reduce Reaumur's scale to that of the Centigrade.—Multiply by 5, and divide the product by 4.

To reduce the Centigrade scale to that of Reaumur.—Multiply the reading by 4, and divide the product by 5.

As the French tables and observations of temperature are those which most frequently come under our notice, it is desirable that a simple mental calculation should suffice. The following rule is the one we use to convert, in a moment, all readings of the centigrade scale into their equivalent values in Fahrenheit's scale; viz. double the centigrade degrees, and deduct one-tenth of the product, adding 32° if the temperature is above the freezing point, or subtracting the product from 32° if below.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

ON THE CALENDAR.

THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE CALENDAR, FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1849.

	Gregorian, or New Calendar.	Julian or Old Calendar.
Dominical Letters	G	B
Golden Number	7	7
Roman Indiction	7	7
Solar Cycle	10	10
Epact	6	17

(For remarks upon these articles, see the Almanack for the year 1847.)

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE YEAR 1849 WITH ANCIENT ERAS.

Being, till September 16th, the latter part of the 5609th, and from September 17th the beginning of the 5610th year since the creation of the world, according to the Jews.

Being the 6562nd year of the Julian Period.

Being the 2602nd year since the Foundation of Rome (according to Varro).

Being the 2596th year since the era of Nabonassar, which has been assigned to Wednesday, the 26th of February, of the 3967th year of the Julian Period, which corresponds, according to chronologists, to the 747th, and, according to astronomers, to the 746th year before the birth of Christ.

Being the 2625th year of the Olympiad, or the first year of the 657th Olympiad will begin in July, 1849, if we fix the era of the Olympiads at 775 years before Christ, or at or about the beginning of July of the year 3938 of the Julian Period.

Being the latter part of the 1265th, and the beginning of the 1266th year (of twelve lunations) since the Hegira, or flight of Mahomet, which it is generally supposed took place on the 12th of July, in the year 622 of the Christian era. The year 1265 commenced on the 27th of November, 1848, and ends the 16th of November, 1849.

CALENDAR OF THE JEWS FOR THE YEAR 1849.

5609.	1848.	NEW MOONS AND FEASTS.
Tebeth .. 1	December .. 26 1849.	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
Tebeth .. 10	January .. 4	Fast: Siege of Jerusalem
Schebat .. 1	" .. 24	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
Adar .. 1	February .. 23	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 13	March .. 7	Fast of Esther
" .. 14	" .. 8	Fast of Purim
" .. 15	" .. 9	Schuschan Purim
Nisan .. 1	" .. 24	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 8	" .. 31	Great Sabbath
" .. 15	April .. 7	Passover begins*
" .. 16	" .. 8	Second day*
" .. 21	" .. 13	Seventh day*
" .. 22	" .. 14	Passover ends*
Ijar .. 1	" .. 23	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 18	May .. 10	Lag Beomer
Sivan .. 1	" .. 22	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 6	" .. 27	Pentecost Holidays, Feast of Weeks*
" .. 7	" .. 28	Second day *
Tamuz .. 1	June .. 21	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 17	July .. 7	Fast: Seizure of the Temple by Titus*
Ab .. 1	" .. 20	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 9	" .. 28	Fast: Destruction of the Temple*
Elul .. 1	August .. 19	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 7	" .. 25	Dedication of the Walls by Nehemiah
" .. 17	September .. 4	Expulsion of the Greeks
" .. 29	" .. 16	Fast: End of Year
5610.		
Tisri .. 1	" .. 17	Feast of the New Year*
" .. 2	" .. 18	Second day of the New Year*
" .. 3	" .. 19	Fast of Gedallah
" .. 10	" .. 26	Fast: Day of Atonement*
" .. 15	October .. 1	Feast of Tabernacles*
" .. 16	" .. 2	Second day of the Feast of Tabernacles*
" .. 21	" .. 7	"
" .. 22	" .. 8	Eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles*
" .. 23	" .. 9	Rejoicing for the discovery of the Law*
Marchesvan .. 1	" .. 17	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
Kislev .. 1	November .. 16	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 25	December .. 10	Consecration of the Temple
Tebeth .. 1	" .. 16	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon
" .. 10	" .. 25	Fast for the Siege of Jerusalem

The Anniversaries marked with an asterisk (*) are to be strictly observed. The Jewish Year generally contains 354 days, or 12 Lunations of the Moon; but, in a cycle of 19 years, an intercalary month (Veadar) is 7 times introduced, for the purpose of rendering the average duration of the year quite or nearly correct.

MOHAMMEDAN CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1849.

Hegiri; 1265,	Moharrem 1	(New Year)	falls on November 27, 1848.
" "	Safar 1	"	December 27, "
" "	Rebi-el-Awwel 1	"	January 25, 1849.
" "	Rebi-el-Accher 1	"	February 24, "
" "	Dschemadi-el-Awwel 1	"	March 25, "
" "	Dschemadi-el-Accher 1	"	April 24, "
" "	Redschebi 1	"	May 23, "
" "	Schaban 1	"	June 22, "
" "	Ramadan 1	{ Month of Abstinence }	July 21, "
" "	Schewal 1	{ observed by the Turks }	August 20, "
" "	D-u'l-Kade 1	"	September 18, "
" "	D-u'l-hedsché 1	"	October 18, "
Hegiri; 1266.	Moharrem	"	November 17, "
" "	Safar 1	"	December 17, "

(For remarks on the Mohammedan year, see the Almanack of last year.)

SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC.

Spring Signs	{ 1 ♈ Aries 2 ♉ Taurus 3 ♊ Gemini	Autumn Signs	{ 7 ♎ Libra 8 ♏ Scorpio 9 ♐ Sagittarius
Summer Signs	{ 4 ♋ Cancer 5 ♌ Leo 6 ♍ Virgo	Winter Signs	{ 10 ♐ Capricornus 11 ♑ Aquarius 12 ♒ Pisces

FIXED AND MOVEABLE FESTIVALS, ANNIVERSARIES, &c.

Epiphany	Jan. 6	Pentecost—Whit Sunday ..	27
Martyrdom of King Charles I. ..	30	Restoration of King Chas. II.	29
Septuagesima Sunday	Feb. 4	Trinity Sunday	June 3
Quinquagesima—Shrove Sun. ..	18	Corpus Christi	7
Ash Wednesday	21	Accession of Queen Victoria	20
Quadragesima—1st Sunday } ..	25	Proclamation	21
in Lent	25	St. John Baptist—Midsum- }	24
St. David	March 1	mer Day	24
St. Patrick	17	Birth of Dowager Queen }	Aug. 13
Annunciation—Lady Day ..	25	Adelaide	29
Palm Sunday	April 1	St. Michael—Michaelmas Day	29
Good Friday	6	Gunpowder Plot	Nov. 5
EASTER SUNDAY	8	Birth of Prince of Wales ..	9
Low Sunday	15	Birth of Prince Albert ..	26
St. George	23	St. Andrew	30
Rogation Sunday	May 13	1st Sunday in Advent ..	Dec. 2
Ascension Day—Holy Thursday	17	St. Thomas	21
Birth of Queen Victoria	24	Christmas Day	25

BEGINNING OF THE SEASONS, 1849.

		D.	H.	M.
The Sun enters	Capricornus (Winter begins)	1848, Dec.	21	4 0
"	Aries (Spring begins)	1849, March	20	5 13
"	Cancer (Summer begins)	" June	21	2 8
"	Libra (Autumn begins)	" Sept.	22	16 3
"	Capricornus (Winter begins)	" Dec.	21	9 42

DURATION OF THE SEASONS, AND THE YEAR 1849.

The Sun will be in the	Winter	signs	89 Days	1 Hour	13 Minutes
"	Spring	"	92	20	55 "
"	Summer	"	93	13	55 "
"	Autumn	"	89	17	39 "
The Sun will be on the	D. H. M.				
Equator and going N.	1849, March	20	5 13,	his declination being	0 0 0
The Sun will reach his	1849, June	21	2 8,	his N. declin. being	23 27 23
greatest N. declination					
The Sun will be on the	1849, Sept.	22	16 3,	his declination being	0 0 0
Equator, and going S.					
The Sun will be at his	1849, Dec.	21	9 42,	his S. declin. being	23 27 23
greatest S. declination					
The Sun will be North of the Equator (Spring and Summer)	186 days				
10 hours 50 minutes.					
The Sun will be South of the Equator (Winter and Autumn)	178 days 18 hours				
52 minutes.					

The length of the tropical year, commencing at the Winter Solstice 1848, and terminating at the Winter Solstice 1849, is 365 days 5 hours 42 minutes.

ASTRONOMICAL SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS EXPLAINED.

☉ The Sun	♄ Iris	° Degrees
☾ New Moon	♃ Astrea	' Minutes of Arc
☾ First Quarter of Moon	♂ Flora	" Seconds of Arc
☾ Full Moon	♊ Metis	D. Days
☾ Last Quarter of Moon	♄ Jupiter	H. Hours
☿ Mercury	♃ Saturn	M. Minutes of Time
♀ Venus	♄ Uranus	S. Seconds of Time
♁ or ☿ The Earth	♅ Neptune	☉ Sunday
♂ Mars	♄ Ascending Node	☾ Monday
♂ Vesta	♄ Descending Node	☾ Tuesday
♂ Juno	N. North	☾ Wednesday
♂ Pallas	E. East	☾ Thursday
♂ Ceres	S. South	☾ Friday
♂ Hebe	W. West	☾ Saturday

The Symbol ☿ Conjunction, or having the same Longitude or Right Ascension.
☐ Quadrature, or differing 90° in Longitude or Right Ascension.
♁ Opposition, or differing 180° in Longitude or Right Ascension.

(For explanation of Astronomical terms, see Almanack of last year.)

LAW TERMS, 1849.

As Settled by Statutes 2 George IV., 1 William IV., cap. 70, s. 6 (passed July 23rd, 1830), and 1 William IV., cap. 3, s. 2 (passed December 23rd, 1830).

Hilary Term	Begins January 11	Ends January 31
Easter Term	" April 15	" May 8
Trinity Term	" May 22	" June 12
Michaelmas	" Nov. 2	" Nov. 26

UNIVERSITY TERMS, 1849. OXFORD.

TERMS.	BEGINS.	ENDS.
Lent	January 15	March 31
Easter	April 18	May 26
Trinity	May 30	July 7
Michaelmas	October 10	December 17

The Act, July 3.

CAMBRIDGE.

TERMS.	BEGINS.	DIVIDES.	ENDS.
Lent	Jan. 13	Feb. 20, Noon	March 30
Easter	April 18	May 27, Midnight	July 6
Michaelmas	Oct. 10	Nov. 12, Midnight	Dec. 16

The Commencement, July 3.



M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.					HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.		Part of the Year.
			SOUTHS.					SOUTHS.					Before Sunrise			After Sunset.		Morning.	Afternoon.	
			Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	O'Clock. 2h. 4h. 6h.	Moon's Age.	O'Clock. 6h. 8h. 10h.					
1	M	<i>Circumcision,</i>	8	8	3 58	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	0	11 28	5 32	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	48		7			6 10	6 35	1
2	Tu	being the eighth day after the nativity of Jesus Christ, who was circumcised when the eight days were accom- plished, according to the law of the Jews.	8	8	4 26	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	1	11 54	6 22	42		Morning.		8			6 58	7 25	2
3	W		8	8	4 54	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	2	Afternoon	7 14	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	1		9			7 55	8 25	3
4	Th		8	8	5 21	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	3	0 55	8 9	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	18		10			9 2	9 36	4
5	F		8	8	5 48	16	4	4	1 32	9 6	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	34		11			10 15	10 54	5
6	S	<i>Epiphany. Tw.D</i>	8	7	6 14	16	4	6	2 17	10 6	55 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	50		12			11 30	At Midnight.	6
7	S	1st S. aft EPIPH.	8	7	6 40	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	7	3 12	11 7	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	0		13			No Tide.	0 32	7
8	M	<i>Lucian. Pl. Mon.</i>	8	7	7 6	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	8	4 14	Morning.	55 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	2		14			1 0	1 30	8
9	Tu	[burnt 1838	8	6	7 31	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	9	5 24	0 8	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	56		15			1 55	2 20	9
10	W	<i>Royal Exchange</i>	8	6	7 55	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	10	6 36	1 7	50 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	41		16			2 45	3 10	10
11	Th	<i>Hilary Term beg.</i>	8	5	8 19	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	11	7 48	2 2	47 $\frac{1}{4}$	9	17		17			3 35	3 55	11
12	F	Polaris souths at 5h. 37m. P.M.	8	4	8 42	17	4	13	9 0	2 54	43	9	48		18			4 17	4 40	12
13	S	<i>Camb. Term beg.</i>	8	3	9 5	17	4	14	10 8	3 43	39	10	15		19			5 0	5 20	13
14	S	2d S. aft. EPIPH.	8	2	9 27	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	16	11 16	4 29	34 $\frac{3}{4}$	10	39		20			5 40	6 0	14
15	M	<i>Ox. Term begins</i>	8	2	9 48	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	18	Morning.	5 14	30 $\frac{3}{4}$	11	4		21			6 20	6 45	15
16	Tu	Alpha Arietis souths at 6h. 15m. P.M.	8	1	10 8	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	19	0 20	5 58	27 $\frac{1}{4}$	11	27		22			7 5	7 25	16
17	W	Alpha Ceti souths at 7h. 6m. P.M.	8	0	10 28	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	21	1 23	6 42	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	11	53		23			7 50	8 20	17
18	Th	<i>Prisca. Old T. D.</i>	7 59	10	48	18	4	22	2 26	7 26	21 $\frac{3}{4}$		Afternoon		24			8 55	9 30	18
19	F	<i>Copernic. b. 1472</i>	7 58	11	6	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	24	3 26	8 11	20	0	51		25			10 5	10 40	19
20	S	<i>St. Fabian</i>	7 57	11	24	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	26	4 23	8 58	19	1	28		26			11 15	11 50	20
21	S	3d S. aft. EPIPH.	7 56	11	41	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	27	5 18	9 45	19	2	11		27			No Tide.	0 20	21
22	M	<i>St. Vincent</i>	7 55	11	57	19	4	29	6 8	10 34	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	1		28			0 44	1 7	22
23	Tu	Aldebaran souths at 8h. 15m. P.M.	7 54	12	13	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	31	6 52	11 24	—	3	59		29			1 28	1 50	23
24	W	<i>Pitt died 1806</i>	7 53	12	28	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	33	7 34	Afternoon	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	2		30			2 10	2 27	24
25	Th	<i>Convers. St. Paul</i>	7 51	12	42	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	35	8 8	1 32	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	44		31			2 45	3 5	25
26	F	Capella souths at 8h. 42m. P.M.	7 50	12	55	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	37	8 45	1 52	27 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	14		2			3 20	3 40	26
27	S	Sirius souths at 10h. 10m. P.M.	7 48	13	7	20	4	39	9 7	2 41	31 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	25		3			3 57	4 15	27
28	S	4th. S. aft EPIPH.	7 47	13	19	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	40	9 34	3 20	36	9	37		4			4 35	4 50	28
29	M	[Charles I.	7 45	13	29	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	41	10 1	4 20	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	51		5			5 10	5 30	29
30	Tu	<i>Martyr. of King</i>	7 44	13	39	21	4	43	10 28	5 10	45		Morning.		6			5 50	6 10	30
31	W	<i>Hilary Term ends</i>	7 43	13	48	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	45	10 59	6 3	49	0	4		7			6 35	7 0	31

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

JANUARY.

THE SUN is in the sign Capricornus (the Goat) till the 20th, on which day, at 2h. 21m. A.M., he enters the sign Aquarius (the Water-bearer). On the 2nd day, at 2h. 6m. A.M., he is the nearest to the Earth during the year, and is distant 93,407,000 miles. He rises on the 1st, at 2° S. of the S.E. by E.; on the 15th, at the S.E. by E.; and on the last day, at 5½° S. of the E.S.E. He sets on the same days at 2° S. of S.W. by W., at the S.W. by W., and at 5½° S. of the W.S.W. points of the horizon respectively. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are shown every day on the opposite page.

The Moon is in the constellation Cetus on the 1st; on the boundaries of Cetus and Pisces on the 2nd; in that of Cetus again on the 3rd and 4th; in Taurus on the 5th and 6th; on the 7th, at noon, she passes into Gemini; and on the 9th into Cancer; on the 11th and 12th she is in Leo; from the 13th to the 16th, in Virgo; on the 17th and 18th, in Libra; 19th and 20th, in Ophiuchus; on the 21st and 22nd, on the boundaries of Aquila and Sagittarius; on the 23rd, in Sagittarius; 24th, in Capricornus; the 25th and 26th, in Aquarius; in Pisces on the 27th and 28th; on the 29th and 30th, skirting Pisces and Cetus; and in Cetus on the 31st.

She rises between the times of sun-setting and sun-rising, or during the night, from the 8th to the 24th; and during the day, at the other times. She sets after the Sun and before he rises till the 9th, and again after the 24th, and during the day between the 10th and the 23rd. For the actual times every day, see opposite page.

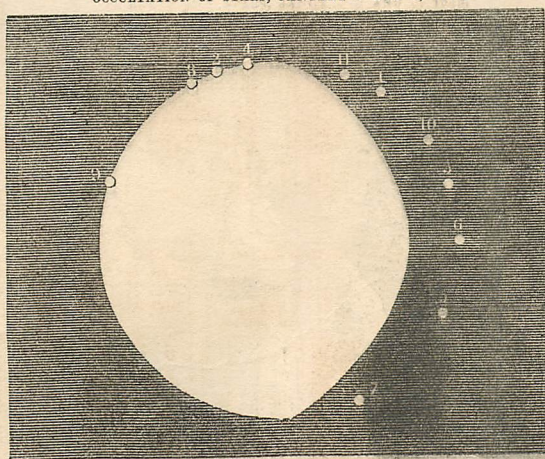
She is on the Equator on the 14th and on the 28th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Uranus on the 2nd; Jupiter, on the 11th; Mars, on the 21st; Mercury, on the 25th; Venus and Saturn, on the 28th; and Uranus, again on the 29th.

She is full on the 8th, and new on the 24th; but without an Eclipse at both times. Her times of change are given below.

On January 5th and 6th several stars are occulted by the Moon; the disappearances will take place at the dark limb of the Moon, and the re-appearances will take place at the bright limb, at the places shown in the annexed diagram, which is drawn for an inverting telescope.

OCCULTATION OF STARS, JANUARY 5 AND 6, 1849.

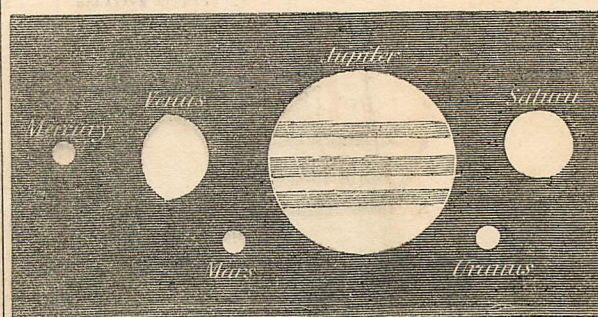


Days of the Month.	will disappear at the place marked	D. H. M.	and re-appear at the place marked	D. H. M.
48 Tauri		1 at 5 8 35 P. M.	2 at 5 9 11 P. M.	
Gamma Tauri		3 at 5 10 39 "	4 at 5 11 27 "	
Theta 1 Tauri		5 at 6 2 39 A. M.	8 at 6 3 31 A. M.	
Theta 2 Tauri		6 at 6 2 47 "	V at 6 3 26 "	
Astar 5 mag. in Taurus		7 at 6 3 29 "	9 at 6 4 16 "	
85 Tauri		10 at 6 4 12 "	11 at 6 4 27 "	

MERCURY, from the 1st to the 13th, is in the constellation Sagittarius; between the 14th and 28th in that of Capricornus; and in Aquarius after the 28th.

He is an evening star from the 15th. He rises on the 1st, six minutes before the Sun; on the 3rd, at the same time as the Sun; and on the last day, 40m. after the Sun. He sets on the 12th at 1m., on the 20th at 34m., and on the last day at 1h. 24m. after the Sun sets; and, therefore, at the end of the month he is favorably situated for observation after sunset. He rises on the 1st at 6° S. of S.E. by E.; on the 18th, at S.E. by E.; and on the 30th, at E.S.E. He sets on the 1st at 6° S. of S.W. by W.; on the 18th, at S.W. by W.; and on the last day, at W.S.W. He is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month; is in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 8th; and is near the Moon on the 25th.

RELATIVE APPEARANCE OF THE PLANETS IN JANUARY, 1849.



VENUS is in the constellation Capricornus from the 1st to the 3rd; in that of Aquarius, from the 4th to the 21st; and in that of Pisces, from the 22nd.

She is an evening star; and sets on the 1st at 7h. 28m. P.M., at 3½° S. of W.S.W.; on the 6th, at 7h. 43m. P.M., at the W.S.W.; on the 21st, at 8h. 28m. P.M., at the W. by S.; and on the 31st, at 8h. 57m. P.M., at 3½° S. of W. She is moving eastward among the stars during the month; is near the Moon on the 28th, and Saturn on the 29th.

MARS is in the constellation Ophiuchus till the 16th; and in Sagittarius from the 17th.

He is a morning star, and is visible a short time before sunrise. He rises on the 1st at 6h. 23m. A.M., at 3½° S. of S.E. by E.; and on the last day, at 6h. 6m. A.M., at 4½° S. of the same point of the horizon. His times of southing are given below; and he sets between 1h. and 2h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 21st.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo, and is visible throughout the night. He rises on the 1st at 7h. 30m. P.M., at 2° N. of E.N.E.; and on the last day, at 5h. 15m. P.M., at 3½° N. of the same point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of 53° on the 1st, and of 54½° on the 31st; and he sets between 8h. A.M. and 10h. A.M.

He is moving slowly westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 11th.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Immersions of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd are visible, and disappear at the distance of one-fourth; less than one-half; and greater than one-half of his diameter from him respectively. On the 14th, at 8h. 50m., an Emission of the 4th takes place, and it will re-appear at the distance of an eighth part of the diameter. These Eclipses will appear to take place on the right side of the planet through a telescope that does not invert, and on the left side as seen through one that does invert.

SATURN is in the constellation Pisces throughout the month. He is an evening star, and sets near W. by S. on every day: on the 1st, at 10h. 15m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 9h. 26m. P.M.; and on the 31st, at 8h. 31m. P.M. He moves slowly eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 28th, and Venus on the 29th.

URANUS is in the constellation Pisces throughout the year. He sets near the W. by N.: on the 1st at 1h. 2m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 1h. 7m. P.M. He souths on the 15th, at 5h. 29m. P.M., at an altitude of 45°. He moves eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 2nd, and again on the 29th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.					OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.					
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of					Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.
	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	Morning	Afternoon	1st. Sat.	2nd Sat.									
							Immersion.									
							Immersion.									
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Xi ¹ Ceti	5	{	D. H. M.	Dark	
6	11 45	2 50	10 19	2 55	4 42	1 11 5 P.M.	1 8 57 P.M.	1 8 57 P.M.	1 8 57 P.M.	1 8 57 P.M.				3 5 46 P.M.		
11	Aftern.	2 53	10 15	2 33	4 23	7 6 30 A.M.	8 11 33 P.M.	8 11 33 P.M.	8 11 33 P.M.	8 11 33 P.M.	111 Tauri	6	{	6 11 48 P.M.	Bright	
16	0 17	2 56	10 12	2 12	4 5	9 0 59 A.M.	16 2 10 A.M.	16 2 10 A.M.	16 2 10 A.M.	16 2 10 A.M.				7 0 37 A.M.		
21	0 33	2 59	10 8	1 50	3 47	16 2 52 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	Tau Leonis	4	{	13 8 12 A.M.	Bright	
26	0 49	3 1	10 4	1 28	3 29	17 9 21 P.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.	23 4 46 A.M.				13 8 33 A.M.		
31	1 3	3 2	10 1	1 6	3 11	23 4 46 A.M.	24 11 14 P.M.	24 11 14 P.M.	24 11 14 P.M.	24 11 14 P.M.	38 Virginis	6	{	15 0 5 A.M.	Dark	
	1 16	3 3	9 57	0 44	2 53	30 6 39 A.M.	17 8 11 P.M.	17 8 11 P.M.	17 8 11 P.M.	17 8 11 P.M.				15 1 7 A.M.		
For occultations on Jan. 5 and Jan. 6, see above.																

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.

And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.

Days of the Month.	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	First Quarter	Perigee	Apogee
1	2d. 7h. 38m. A.M.	8 10 50 P.M.	16 6 54 A.M.	24 10 3 A.M.	31 4 43 P.M.	7 3 0	18 at Midnight

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.

Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.
1	18h. 29m.	24° 46'	21h. 34m.	16° 22'	17h. 3m.	23° 6'	9h. 37m.	15° 10'	23h. 27m.	5° 57'	1h. 9m.	6° 38'
6	19 5	24 27	21 57	14 15	17 19	23 27	9 35	15 19	23 28	5 48	1 9	6 39
11	19 40	23 31	22 20	11 59	17 35	23 43	9 34	15 29	23 29	5 48	1 9	6 40
16	20 16	21 56	22 42	9 36	17 51	23 53	9 32	15 40	23 31	5 27	1 9	6 42
21	20 52	19 41	23 3	7 7	18 7	23 57	9 29	15 52	23 33	5 16	1 10	6 45
26	21 26	16 49	23 24	4 24	18 23	23 54	9 27	16 5	23 34	5 4	1 10	6 47

JANUARY.—PLOUGH MONDAY.

THE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TWELVE MONTHS BY THOMAS MILLER



He ploughs the hills and ploughs the dale,
He ploughs through field and fallow :
Who does not wish the Ploughman well,
Is but a sorry fellow.—Old Ballad.

MANY of the old games, and masques, and mummings, which were in accordance with the simple habits of our homely forefathers, have long since passed away. A few only remain, out of those which it was their delight and amusement to witness; and even these are shorn of their ancient splendour; for, though still picturesque, they have a faded look, and seem no more in keeping with the manners and customs of the present day, than the murrey-coloured coats, and slashed doublets, and trunk hose would be, if dragged forth from the old oaken recesses in which they have lain, disturbed only by the moth for many a long year, and worn again by the present generation. Such as have survived the stern mandates of Cromwell, lived through the Restoration of Charles, and withstood all the stormy revolutions which at last settled down, when the House of Hanover was securely seated upon the throne, we shall occasionally glance at in our descriptions of the months; for they are still within the ancient boundary-line which every year is rapidly cutting up, and into the opening of which the steam-boats and railroads are entering, and overturning nearly all that is picturesque and primitive, that has for centuries given such life and beauty to the rural landscapes of England.

January, with its short days and long nights, though it still comes as of old, with frost, and snow, and cold, and darkness, brings with it once a year its merry Plough Monday, and in a few out-of-the-way country places the village street is all astir with the little crowd of gaping rustics, just as it was, except for the changes in costume and architecture, three or four centuries ago. The old fiddler, who dates every incident in his life from the many country wakes, feasts, and statutes he has attended, is again in requisition, although the snow lies deep upon the ground; the drum, which only sounds at the club-feast, or on such occasions as these, is again dragged from its hiding-place; and sometimes the old-fashioned pipe and tabor, which have been blown and beaten by the descendants of the same family, through many generations, are called in to awaken the sleeping echoes of winter. You hear the noisy group long before they heave into sight along the winding lane, engirded with its high and leafless hedges—green only where the ivy trails, or the prickly holly shoots up; they are announced by the loud huzzas which rend the air, and are followed by all the loiterers who have congregated from the villages for miles around.

Heralding the way, come the healthy-looking round chubby-faced country lads,

waving their hats and caps, regardless of the cold; their heavy boots crunching the snow at every step, and their hard naked hands nearly blue or purple through exposure to the frosty air. They are followed by pipe and tabor, fiddle and drum. Then appears a strong healthy-looking ploughman, with his heavy ankle boots, worsted stockings, stout corduroy breeches, and thick plush waistcoat, over which he wears a gown, borrowed for the occasion of Nanny or Molly, and the skirt of which he generally tucks up under his waistcoat until he enters the village, to keep it from dragging; and thus arrayed, with bonnet and cap on head, he comes dancing along, about as gracefully as a brown shaggy bear, and rattling the money-box, which he carries in his hand, at every step, for he is the Betsy, so famous in the olden time as the chief *figurante* on a Plough Monday. Next follows the plough, drawn by ten or a dozen stout countrymen, by ropes either thrown over their shoulders or fastened around their waists, while their hats or white smock-frocks are decorated with ribbons of almost all colours, amid which are placed bunches of ears of corn; he who guides the plough being ornamented like another Ceres, and, doubtless, like her, intended to represent the emblem of plenty. Next appear the threshers with their flails, and reapers with their hooks, waggoners with long whips dangling over their shoulders; bringing before the eye the whole procession of harvest, from the plougher, the sower, the reaper, the thresher, down to the dusty miller, who has covered himself with an extra coat of meal for the occasion, and has come to take toll out of the proceeds of the day.

While writing, the scene rises before the eye as distinctly as when in our boyish days, above twenty years ago, we stood a happy spectator, regardless of Winter—

Clothed all in freeze.
Chattering his teeth for cold, that did him chill;
Whilst on his hoary beard his breath did freeze.—SPENSER.

We again see the big farm-house, with its ivy-covered porch, in which the jolly farmer, with his top-boots, blue coat, and pipe in mouth, stood beside his buxom and merry-faced wife, looking on with as much apparent pleasure as the little children, who rested with their heads on the top-most and frost-covered bar of the gate which they had climbed. What he dropped into "Betsy" the ploughman's box, fell with a heavy sound, causing the bonneted bearer to rattle it with extra force, and to cut a variety of most merry-like capers. Then came the great brown jug, filled high with foaming mighty ale, which seemed quite a load even for the strong arms of the stout dairymaid who bore it; little Jack, the farmer's boy, followed with large drinking-horns, and a basket filled with such huge hunches of bread and cheese as showed that the worthy giver knew right well how to measure a ploughman's appetite. Then pipe and tabor, and drum and violin, were mute for several minutes, and all the sound heard, excepting an occasional huzza, was like that of a dozen horses crunching and feeding together. The jug was again refilled and emptied; and so they passed on from house to house until they at last came to one where a noted miser resided. They knocked at the door—there was no answer. "Betsy" rattled his box louder than ever, but no one came; drum, tabor, pipe, and violin thundered and screamed in vain; huzza after huzza was sent forth by the assembled crowd, but excepting a stealthy peep from behind the blind, and which would have cost the waiting-maid her place had she been discovered by the old curmudgeon, no other sign of life appeared within. "Gee-ho! Come-up!" exclaimed the man who held the stilts or handles of the plough, and in a moment the deep bright share was into the ground: backwards and forwards it went, cutting deeper, and the men pulling stronger at every furrow they made, until the whole lawn at the front of the miser's house lay brown, bare, and ridgy as a newly-ploughed field.

When the mischief was done the old miser made his appearance, and threatened the ploughman with law, imprisonment, transportation; but no one seemed to advocate his cause. It was an old custom thus, to plough up the ground at the front of the doors of those who gave not "largess" on Plough Monday; nor do we remember a single instance of prosecution for the misdemeanour. Such abuses, however, we doubt not, have been instrumental in abolishing these old and useless customs. What we have here presented is a faithful portraiture of rural England only twenty years ago; and there are still, we believe, a few green quiet corners in our island, where Plough Monday is kept up in the present day. We have here preserved the outline of a faint and faded picture, the rich colouring of which began to decay from the very hour when Cromwell and his Roundheads shut up the ancient gallery of old English amusements. It was opened again at the restoration of Charles; but the damp and the mildew had settled down upon it. A new race of men had sprung up, and a mighty change, which is still advancing, began to show itself throughout the land—the merry England of our forefathers was growing into the working and thinking England in which we now live.

The race of yore,
Who danced our infancy upon their knee,
And told our marvelling boyhood legends store,
Of their strange ventures happ'd by land or sea;
How are they blotted from the things that be!—SCOTT.

Few, unless they are well versed in geology, would dream of the appearance which our island presented in those early years that have passed away unnumbered by man, but which have left traces of their existence beneath the hills and valleys we daily tread. The landscape, which at this season of the year is leafless, and sometimes buried in its winding-sheet of snow, was thousands of years ago adorned with flowers, and fruits, and trees which now only blossom and ripen, and wave in the far-off sunny lands of the East. Then the huge hippopotamus wallowed in our rivers, and the mammoth and the mastodon shook those old (and ages ago buried) forests beneath their tread. In the excavations of railways, in the very heart of our ancient hills, and in the deep beds of our beautiful rivers, do we find the remains of these extinct monsters. The dam and its offspring sometimes buried side by side, a convincing proof that here the young was once bred, lived, and died. Amid the giant ferns of this early world, which have dwindled down to the knee-deep bracken through which we now tread, did the striped and sabre-toothed tiger couch, ages before his angry growl ever fell upon any human ear. Then the great-cave bear went prowling about our island; and herds of wolves and jackals pursued the maned and shaggy bison through the forest fastnesses. The huge elk, whose remains have been discovered, and the span of whose antlers from the tip of each horn was above thirteen feet, fed upon our hills, and stooped down to drink by the sides of our rivers, in those undated ages; for the shadow of man had not as yet been mirrored upon the face of those waters. Birds, whose gaudy plumage is now only to be seen in tropical forests, then plumed themselves in the sunshine on the boughs of such trees as never again threw their green shadows over that deep-buried and untrodden soil. Then our island was houseless, our seas mastless, nor had the print of any human foot as yet indented the sand upon our shore. Such a knowledge as this, wherever we may wander, never causes us to feel solitary; to vary a few lines by Keats:

though
Keen fitful gusts are whispering here and there,
Among the bushes, half leafless and dry
And stars look very cold about the sky,
And we had many miles on foot to faire:

Yet felt we little of the cold bleak air,
Or of the dead leaves rustling drearily;
Or of those silver lamps that burnt on high,
Or of the distance from home's pleasant lair.

Wild, silent, and uninhabited have we found places which we have traversed in England during winter in our own day—the far-extending cliff country of Lincolnshire, backed by the high and villageless wold, that seemed in the distance to go climbing up until it was lost in the grey and leaden-coloured sky. On the huge table-lands which ascended, ledge above ledge, telling where for ages the locked-up waters had remained stationary, we have seen the snow lie white, deep, silent, and untrodden, just as it had been blown over the broad and shelterless valleys, and left there, height above height, like alp on alp. The flocks of sheep, that picked up a scanty subsistence in summer on those stony barriers of dried-up oceans, had been driven miles away by the herdsman into the lowlands; and thus all along the ridges of those high and silent wolds no living object, excepting some solitary bird, was seen to move. Neither hedge, nor shed, nor fence were there on that high and heaving ridge of wild hills, nor aught which bore sign or imprint of the hand of man. The few naked trees that hung leaning over the steep precipice-like ledges, looked as if they had been washed there ages ago, and left motionless one above the other by the sudden subsiding of those mighty waters. The gathering night, and the blinding snow-storm, with the howling wind blowing full in his face, would even now make the stout heart of a stranger quail, if, unacquainted with the country, he found himself there alone in the dusky close of a cold brief January day.

Along the woods, along the moorish fens,
Sighs the sad genius of the coming storm;
And up among the loose disjointed cliffs,
And fractured mountains wild, the bawling brook
And cave presageful, send a hollow moan,
Resounding long in list'ning fancy's ear.—THOMSON.

Descending from those heights, we came to the banks of old lonely rivers, whose waters were only ploughed by the keel of the fowler's boat, while he, stretched out at the bottom, glided in silence along, between the high armies of tall and tufted reeds, and sharp-edged water-flats, that glittered like scimitars through the hoar-frost; and tall naked rows of osiers whose stocks or roots were buried beneath the snow, until he arrived within shot of the whole flock of wild bird, when, springing up on the sudden, like an apparition, bang went both his barrels in a moment, making a sudden splash upon the surface of the water, and which the next minute was covered with the feathered bodies of the wounded and the slain. You saw the smoke rolling away like a silvery cloud above the heads of the tufted bulrushes—heard the echoes of his gun die along the hill-side—just caught the low lapping of the water as it was disturbed by the motion of his boat—then, saving the wind that whistled over the frozen sedge and blew bleakly through the naked willows, all again was still.

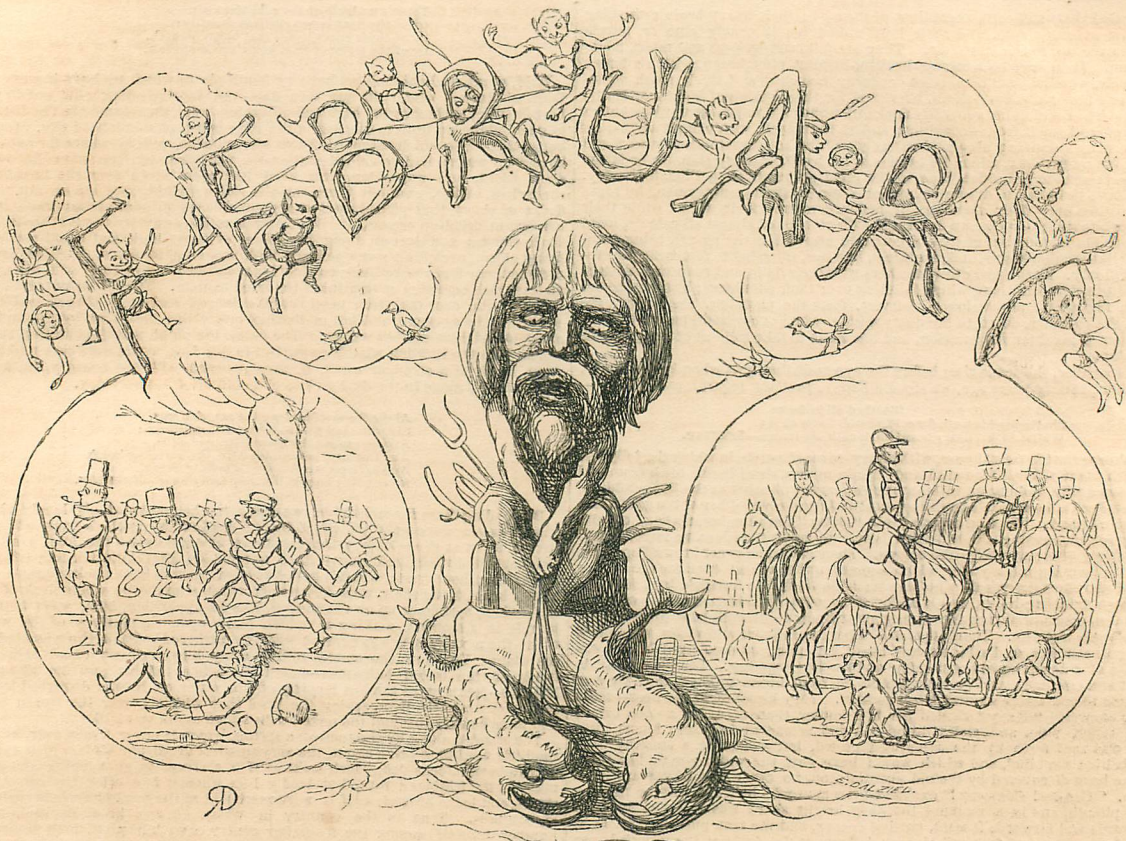
You wander along by the road-side spring, which is never frozen over, and see the little wagtail striding about, the very smallest of all our birds, which appears not to have its legs tied, which looks as if it scorned to go hopping along like many of the feathered race, but boldly lifts up one foot after the other, and struts, and looks around, as if it were marching at the head of a whole regiment of wagtails. True to the country in which he was bred, he disdains to number himself among the feathered gentry who hurry off, long before the approach of winter, to seek a warmer climate; but, like his companion the robin, he braves our severest seasons, and trusting to chance and his own industry, picks up his living as he best can, about spring-heads and water-courses, where a few insects are still to be found; and so between hunting for a living, sleeping, and amusing himself, he wiles away the dull winter, until spring throws her primrose-coloured garment over the sky.

The only sound, except the wind, that appears to give a voice to the wintry landscape, is the murmuring of the river: when that is frozen over and silent, it seems as if the pulse of nature had ceased to beat—as if the last stir of life was motionless—earthed as in a grave; that Hope had at last sunk down in very despair—she who had so long

Patient with bow'd head silent stood,
And on her golden anchor leant,
And watch'd below the sleeping flood,
Where winter, 'mid the dreariment,

Half-buried in the drifted snow,
Lay sleeping on the frozen ground;
Unheeding how the wind did blow,
Bitter and bleak on all around.





M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.				HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE				Day of the Year.
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.		Moon's Age.	After Sunset.		Morning.		Afternoon	
D	D		Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above Horizon	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	Height above Horizon	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	O'Clock. 2h. 4h. 6h.	O'Clock. 6h. 8h. 10h.					h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
1	Th	Salmon Fishing begins	7 41	13 56	21 1/2	4 47	11 31	6 57	52 1/2	1 21					8			7 25	7 53		32
2	F	Cand. Day	7 40	14 3	21 3/4	4 49		7 54	55	2 33					9			8 25	9 5		33
3	S	St. Blaize	7 38	14 10	22 1/2	4 50	1 0	8 53	56 1/2	3 43					10			9 45	10 25		34
4	S	SEPTUAGES. S.	7 36	14 16	22 3/4	4 52	1 57	9 52	56 1/2	4 48					11			11 10	11 45		35
5	M	St. Agatha	7 34	14 20	22 3/4	4 54	3 0	10 50	55 1/2	5 45					12			No Tide.	0 20		36
6	Tu	[Sir R. Peel born, 1783]	7 32	14 24	23 1/4	4 56	4 11	11 47	52 1/2	6 33					13			0 52	1 20		37
7	W	Capella souths 7h. 50m. P.M.	7 30	14 27	23 1/4	4 58	5 24	Morning.	49	7 13					14			1 48	2 10		38
8	Th	Half-Quarter	7 29	14 30	23 1/2	5 0	6 37	0 40	45 1/4	7 45					15			2 35	3 0		39
9	F	Rigel souths 5h. 7m. P.M.	7 27	14 31	24 1/2	5 2	7 47	1 31	41	8 14					16			3 20	3 40		40
10	S	Q. Vic. mar. 1840	7 26	14 32	24 1/2	5 4	8 57	2 20	36 3/4	8 42					17			3 58	4 17		41
11	S	SEXAGESIMA S.	7 24	14 32	24 1/2	5 5	10 3	3 6	32 1/2	9 4					18			4 35	4 54		42
12	M	Beta Tauri souths 7h. 45m. P.M.	7 22	14 31	25 1/2	5 7	11 8	3 51	29	9 30					19			5 15	5 30		43
13	Tu	Castor souths 9h. 49m. P.M.	7 20	14 30	25 1/2	5 9	Morning.	4 35	25 1/2	9 54					20			5 50	6 5		44
14	W	St. Valentine.	7 18	14 28	25 1/2	5 11	0 11	5 20	22 1/2	10 21					21			6 23	6 40		45
15	Th	[Old Cand. D.]	7 16	14 25	26 1/2	5 13	1 12	6 5	20 1/2	10 50					22			7 3	7 25		46
16	F	Pollux souths 9h. 49m. P.M.	7 14	14 21	26 1/2	5 14	2 10	6 51	19 1/2	11 27					23			7 50	8 20		47
17	S	Alpha Orionis Souths at 7h. 57m. P.M.	7 12	14 17	26 1/2	5 16	3 7	7 38	19	Afternoon					24			9 0	9 40		48
18	S	QUINQUAGESIMA	7 10	14 12	27 1/2	5 18	3 59	8 26	19 1/2	0 53					25			10 20	10 55		49
19	M	[OR SHROVE S.]	7 8	14 6	27 3/4	5 20	4 46	9 15	20 3/4	1 46					26			11 34	No Tide.		50
20	Tu	Shrove Tuesday	7 7	14 0	27 3/4	5 21	5 28	10 5	23	2 44					27			0 10	0 40		51
21	W	Ash Wednesday	7 5	13 53	28 1/2	5 23	6 7	10 55	26 1/4	3 50					28			1 0	1 24		52
22	Th	Great demonstra- tions, and barricades erected in Paris, 1848.	7 3	13 45	28 1/2	5 25	6 40	11 45	—	4 59					29			1 45	2 5		53
23	F	Revolution in Paris, 1848.	7 1	13 37	28 3/4	5 27	7 10	Afternoon	30	6 11					30			2 23	2 42		54
24	S	Revolution in Paris, 1848.	6 59	13 28	29 1/4	5 29	7 37	1 25	34 1/2	7 25					1			3 0	3 20		55
25	S	1ST SUN. in LENT	6 56	13 18	29 1/2	5 30	8 4	2 16	39	8 39					2			3 35	3 55		56
26	M	[Quadragesima]	6 54	13 8	30 1/2	5 32	8 33	3 7	43 1/2	9 54					3			4 10	4 32		57
27	Tu	Alpha Hydre souths at 10h. 49m P.M.	6 52	12 58	30 1/4	5 34	9 2	3 59	47 1/2	11 10					4			4 50	5 10		58
28	W	Regulus souths at 11h. 25m. P.M.	6 50	12 47	30 1/2	5 36	9 35	4 54	51 1/2	Morning.					5			5 30	5 52		59

FEBRUARY.

THE SUN is in the sign Aquarius till the 18th, on which day, at 5h. 16m. P.M., he enters the sign Pisces (the Fishes). On the 1st day he is 93,644,000 miles from the Earth. He rises on the 1st, at 5° S. of E.S.E.; on the 11th, at the E.S.E.; and on the 28th, at 1° S. of E. by S. He sets on the same days, respectively, at 4° S. of W.S.W., near the W.S.W., and at 1° S. of W. by S. points of the horizon. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are shown every day on the opposite page.

He is Eclipsed on the 23rd; which Eclipse is annular, and visible in the North Pacific Ocean, but not visible here.

The MOON, on the 1st, passes from Cetus to Taurus; is in Taurus on the 2nd and 3rd; in Gemini on the 4th and 5th; in Cancer on the 6th; in Leo on the 7th, 8th, and 9th; in Virgo on the 10th to the 13th; in Libra on the 13th and 14th; in Ophiuchus on the 15th, 16th, and 17th; on the 18th she is moving on the boundaries of Aquila and Sagittarius; and in the latter constellation on the 19th; in Capricornus on the 20th; in Aquarius on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd; in Pisces on the 24th; in Cetus on the 25th; moving on the boundaries of Pisces and Cetus on the 26th; in Cetus again on the 27th; and on the 28th passes into Taurus.

She rises after sunset and before sunrise, from the 7th to the 22nd, and after sunrise on the remaining days. She sets before sunrise till the 7th, and after sunset from the 23rd, and during the day from the 8th to the 22nd. For the actual times, see the opposite page.

She is on the Equator on the 10th and again on the 26th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Jupiter on the 7th; Mars, on the 19th; Mercury, on the 23rd; Saturn, on the 24th; Uranus and Venus, on the 26th.

She is full on the 7th, and new on the 23rd. On the latter, day an Eclipse of the Sun takes place, but is invisible in Europe.

MERCURY is in the constellation Aquarius throughout the month.

He is an evening star till the 25th, and a morning star from the 26th. He rises after the Sun till the 17th, at the same time as the Sun on the 18th, and 35m. before the Sun on the last day. He sets on the 1st at 1h. 28m.; on the 5th, at 1h. 42m.; on the 11th, at 1h. 45m.; on the 12th, at 1h. 42m.; on the 20th, at 51m., after the Sun sets; and on the 25th, at 4m.; and on the last day, at 40m. before the Sun sets. He is, therefore, favourably situated for observation after the Sun sets till the 20th. He sets 2° N. of W.S.W., on the 1st; on the 10th, at W. by S.; and on the 17th, at 7° S. of W.; and on the 26th, at W. by S. He is moving eastward among the stars from the 1st to the 13th; is stationary on the 14th; and is moving westward from the 15th to the 28th. On the 8th he is at

his greatest E. elongation; is near the Moon on the 23rd; and is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 24th.

VENUS is in the constellation Pisces throughout the month.

She is an evening star; and sets on the 1st at 9h. 0m. P.M.; on the 15th, 9h. 37m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 10h. 8m. P.M.; at the W. on the 4th, and at the W. by N. on the 18th. She is moving eastward among the stars during the month; is near Uranus on the 23rd; and the Moon on the 26th.

MARS is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 24th, and in Capricornus from the 25th.

He is a morning star; and rises on the 1st at 6h. 4m. A.M., at 4° S. of S.E. by E.; and on the last day, at 5h. 28m. A.M., at the S.E. by E. points of the horizon. His times of southing are given below; and he sets between 1h. and 2h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 19th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo, and is visible throughout the night. He rises on the 1st at 5h. 10m. P.M., at 3° N. of E.N.E.; and on the 28th, at 3h. 0m. P.M., at 4° N. of E.N.E.; souths at an altitude of 54° on the 1st, and of 56° nearly on the last day; and sets between 6h. A.M. and 8h. A.M. He is moving slowly westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 7th. On the 6th he is in opposition to the Sun.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Immersions are visible till the 7th, and take place very near to the body of Jupiter, on the left hand as seen through a telescope that does not invert, and on the right hand of an inverting telescope. After the 7th the Immersions will become visible, and they will take place very near to the body of the planet, on the left hand as seen through a non-inverting telescope, and on the right hand as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Pisces throughout the month. He is an evening star; and sets at 8h. 28m. P.M., on the 1st day, at 3° N. of W. by S.; and on the last day at 7h. 1m. P.M., at 5° N. of W. by S. He moves eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 24th.

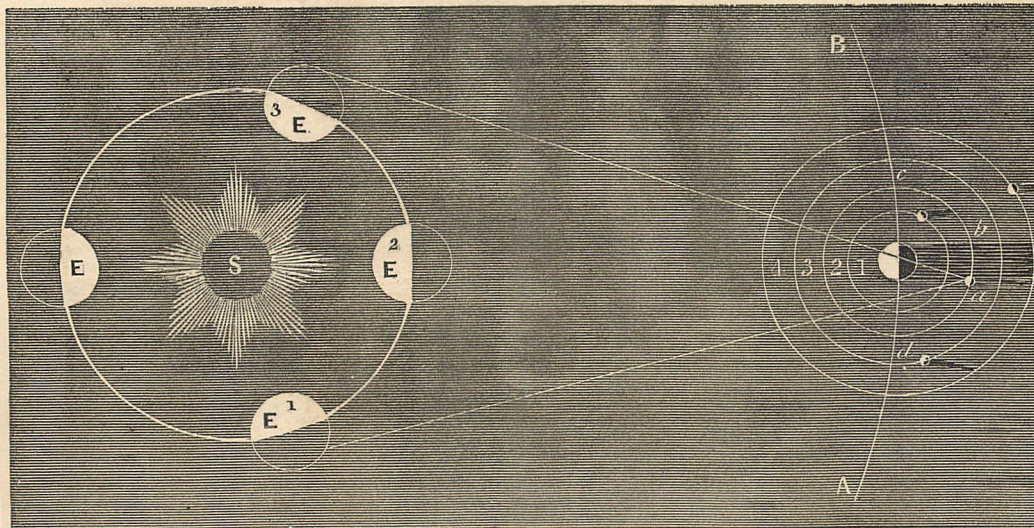
URANUS sets near the W. by N. on the 1st, at 1h. 3m. P.M.; and on the last day at 9h. 21m. P.M. He souths on the 15th, at 3h. 30m. P.M., at an altitude of 45°. He moves eastward among the stars; is near Venus on the 23rd, and the Moon on the 26th.

ON THE SATELLITES OF JUPITER, AND THEIR ECLIPSES.

In the annexed diagram, S represents the Sun; and E, E 1, E 2, E 3, show the Earth in different parts of its orbit; J, Jupiter, in his orbit (A B), surrounded by his four satellites, the orbits of which are marked 1, 2, 3, 4. At a, the second satellite enters the shadow of the planet, and disappears; it emerges at b, but Jupiter conceals it at this time, as will be seen by drawing a line from E to b. The satellite

then passes to its greatest eastern elongation (at c), and from thence, before he planet, to its greatest western elongation (at d). The same remarks apply to the other satellites. As the shadow of Jupiter is always directed from the Sun, it will be evident that the immersions only will be visible to a spectator on the Earth when the Earth is passing from E to E 2; and the emersions only will be visible whilst the Earth is passing from E 2 towards E, or when Jupiter is advancing from opposition to conjunction. The 3rd and 4th satellites, as has been remarked, in consequence of their greater distances from the planet, sometimes disappear, and re-appear on the same side of the disk.

DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.



Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.					OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of					Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Afternoon	Afternoon	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon	1st Sat.		2nd Sat.							
						Immersion. I.		Emerison. E.							
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	95 Virginis	6	{ Star below horizon.	{	Dark
6	1 18	3 3	9 56	0 40	2 50	1 1 8 A.M. I.	2 8 41 P. M. I.	10 2 11 A. M. E.	17 4 48 A. M. E.	27 8 44 P. M. E.					
11	1 23	3 3	9 53	0 17	2 32	2 7 36 P.M. I.	10 2 11 A. M. E.	17 4 48 A. M. E.	27 8 44 P. M. E.						
16	1 19	3 3	9 49	Aftern.	2 14	8 5 17 A.M. E.	17 4 48 A. M. E.	27 8 44 P. M. E.							
21	1 0	3 3	9 46	11 28	1 57	9 11 45 P.M. E.	27 8 44 P. M. E.				A star in Ophiuchus	5	{	Dark	Bright
26	0 28	3 3	9 42	11 6	1 39	11 6 14 P.M. E.									
28	Morning	3 2	9 39	10 44	1 22	17 1 39 A.M. E.	3rd Sat.				A star in Arietis	6	{	Dark	Bright
	11 34	3 1	9 37	10 36	1 15	18 8 8 P.M. E.	1 4 8 A. M. I.								
						25 10 2 P.M. E.	22 7 36 P. M. E.								

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.														
Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.			
	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.		
FULL MOON	7D. 11h. 16m. A.M.	1 22h. 4m	12° 45'	23h. 49m	1° 28'	18h. 43m	23° 43'	9h. 24m	16° 20'	23h. 37m	4° 49'	1h. 11m	6° 51'
LAST QUARTER.	15 4 3 A.M.	6 22 29	9 14	0 9	North.	18 59	23 27	9 21	16 33	23 38	4 36	1 11	6 55
NEW MOON	23 1 30 A.M.	11 22 45	6 18	0 29	3 43	19 15	23 5	9 19	16 45	23 40	4 22	1 12	6 59
PERIGEE	3 9 P.M.	16 22 46	4 47	0 49	6 16	19 31	22 36	9 16	16 58	23 43	4 8	1 13	7 4
APOGEE	15 7 P.M.	21 22 33	5 12	1 8	8 44	19 47	22 2	9 14	17 9	23 45	3 54	1 13	7 9
			26 22 14	7 7	1 27	11 8	20 3	21 22	9 11	17 20	23 47	3 40	1 14	7 14

FEBRUARY.-VALENTINE DAY.



'Twas on the morn of Valentine, when birds begin to prate,
Dame Durdon's servant-maids and men, d'd each betake a mate.
There was Moll and Bet, and Doll and Tot, and Dorothy draggle tail,
And Kate who was a charming girl to carry the milking-pail.

Old Song, entitled "Dame Durdon."

FEBRUARY brings with it Valentine Day. It is the month of billing and cooing when youthful lovers have a most mysterious affection for hearts and darts, wings and rings, Cupids and altars, and no end of nameless emblems surrounded with lace-edged paper, and borders of flowers in all kinds of unnatural colours, which hang temptingly in the windows, and greatly bewilder the senses of both youth and maiden, while they gaze. What a fluttering there is amongst young hearts, what a trembling bashfulness do the fairer purchasers display if the vendor of these cherished love-tokens chances to be a handsome young shopman, assuring him, should he request permission to write the address, that they have only purchased it to please a young friend, and that on no account should they themselves think of sending such nonsensical trifles. "Oh, dear, no! on no account." But St. Valentine's is a day of little harmless deceptions; it seems to have been dedicated to disguised handwritings and false signatures; when letters that are only sent to the next door are posted a mile or two away, yet, strange ending of all, each fond lover hopes to be detected through this thin disguise. What a knowing and important look does the postman assume on the morning of Valentine Day, especially in the country, where almost every rustic maiden is known

to him personally, and where he is as confident as if he had opened and read the missive, that it is not the only messenger of love that has been sent, but he can give a shrewd guess as to whence and from whom the little packet has been despatched. The country barmaid seems rather more demure on such a morning; and even hard-handed and red-armed Betty looks brighter about the eyes than the tin and copper utensils which she daily scours—coming to the door ever and anon—peeping down the road, and wondering whatever it is that makes John, the postman, so late. Then the ostler has a struggle with Betty in the kitchen, endeavouring to get a peep at her Valentine; while the postboy looks with eyes askance upon Jane, the barmaid, on whom he is, as they say in the country, "rather sweet." He finds more to do than usual in the stable amongst his horses, whistles a great deal to himself, and when asked by the pretty flirt what is the matter, answers "Oh, nothing at all!" wondering all the while to himself who can have had the impudence to write to Jane, and only wishing that he knew. She, perhaps, to make him a little jealous, has bought and posted the Valentine, and addressed it to herself, for such manoeuvres are occasionally practised by the maidens when they wish to bring a distant lover to the point at

issue. Another picture which we have seen of Valentine Day would have looked well in the minute painting of a Wilkie. The fond old mother, with her spectacles on, reading the Valentine to her husband, who smiled as he listened attentively to every line, which said

The rose is red, the violet's blue,
Carnation's sweet, and so is you.

The ring is round and has no end,
So is my love to Mary, my friend.

First we eat lots, and then we drew,
Kind fortune said it must be you.

While the pretty daughter to whom these old-fashioned lines were directed sat with her hands clasped together on her knees, looking thoughtfully in the fire and wondering to herself whether or not William really meant what he had written, and if he loved her truly, as much as he pretended to do. Then when she had retired to rest, the old people would sit down and think over what they could spare Mary towards housekeeping, when she married, and they would enumerate nearly everything they possessed, and deprive themselves of many little necessary articles, to add to the comforts of Mary, for ten to one they knew William's mind much better than she did: as the lover and the intended father-in-law, had often met on a Saturday evening at the Plough, where, over a pint and a pipe, they had discussed the whole affair even down to what they should provide for dinner on the wedding-day.

Many antiquarians have endeavoured in vain to unravel the origin and mystery of Valentine Day, but their labours have hitherto been in vain; if discovered, it would likely enough be as unmeaning as the source from whence so many of our old customs have sprung, and not worth the labour wasted. Our ancestors were pretty close observers of nature, and there is but little doubt that, as they noticed the birds, which first begin to build and pair at this period, when the weather is favourable, so natural an occurrence might lead to youths and maidens imitating the custom by selecting lovers, glad of any amusement after the dark mid-winter had passed, and that Valentine Day had no other origin. As far back as we have been enabled to trace this love-making day, we find it linked with the mating of birds, which seems inseparable from St. Valentine; and we are at a loss to imagine how the worthy bishop, whose name is associated with it, first fell into such company.

The earliest Valentines were nothing more than slips of paper, on which the names of both sexes were written: they were placed apart, the men drawing from the pile on which the women's names were endorsed, and they again taking the first they touched from the opposite heap. These names were worn for a number of days—sometimes inside the coat, waistcoat, or bodice—sometimes only on the sleeve, just as the feigned or real lover intended to express his passion; and there is no doubt but that such a game, begun in jest, ended at times in earnest, and that by this means many of our forefathers won their fair brides.

Even in our own day (and in the country the harmless superstition still exists), the first maiden we met on this auspicious morning was considered our Valentine, and as such was hailed; and no little trouble do the rustic lovers put themselves to occasionally, to meet the one on whom their choice has before been fixed. We can remember ourselves in the hey-day of youth being foolish enough to walk two miles in the snow and darkness, and waiting until the cottage door opened, to claim a cherry-cheeked farmer's daughter for our Valentine. Too poor, perhaps, to purchase the printed epistle, with Cupid's altar, hearts, and doves, we presented the original, and thereby saved both paper and postage. Gay, in his "Shepherd's Week," thus describes this old superstition:—

Last Valentine, the day when birds of kind
Their paramours with mutual chirpings find,
I early rose, just at the break of day,
Before the sun had chased the stars away.
A-field I went, amid the morning dew,
To milk my kine (for so should housewives do)
There first I spied: and the first swain we see,
In spite of fortune, shall our true-love be.

We have in our possession, framed and glazed, a Valentine, which was sent to a dear old lady we well know, more than half a century ago. It must have taken many hours to have cut out the hearts and diamonds in scissor-work, and printed the border which surrounds the unsailor-like looking gentleman, who is standing under a tree, and pointing to his ship. Both Chaucer and Lydgate make mention of Valentine Day, for the "Morning Star of Poetry" says—

Blessed be Saint Valentine,
For on his day I chose you to be mine—
Without repenting, my heart sweet.

—proof that five hundred years ago it was celebrated in England.

Towards the close of the month, if the weather is fine, the gardeners begin to bestir themselves. You see the little children out beside the cottages, with their tiny spades, assisting to clear away the withered boughs, and delighted at the fire that is kindled to burn up the rubbish, into which they thrust almost everything they can lay hold of that will burn. Days are longer, and they remain out to the very last minute, it is light, to play in the village street. Such a picture have we now before us. The scene is a rough-hewn wall dividing a church-yard from the high-road: on the opposite ascent stand a row of little cottages, which overlook the low stony barrier, and command a view of the resting-places of the dead. A plot of grass, that already wears a green spring look, slopes down to the edge of the high-road; beside which a clear water-course goes tinkling into the distant valley, then empties itself into a deep sluice, which goes murmuring along through the dark flood-gates that open into a neighbouring river. The stream is crossed by a strong plank, which leads to the cottages. Some of the children are throwing stones and bits of sticks into the stream; others are watching them float away, and anxious that this boat, as they call it, should beat the other. Cold as it still is, a little boy and girl are sitting on the sloping greensward: their mother, who stands sewing at the cottage-door, has twice warned them that they will take cold unless they get up; but they pay no regard to her. Two others are sitting astride the low church-wall; a third is jerking stones into the brook. Lower down another group are running after each other. Beyond these you see the light from the blacksmith's shop falling faintly across the road. Most of the cottage doors are open, for, although only as yet February, the air is as mild as if it were April. An artist might sketch such a scene for a summer evening, were it not that the trees are still leafless; for the little green on the elders beside the brook, and the tiny buds on the gooseberry-bushes, are as yet the only heralds that proclaim the coming of Spring.

The cloudy brow
Of winter smooth'd, up from her orient couch
She springs, and like a maid betroth'd, puts on
Her bridal suit, and with an ardent smile
Comes forth to greet her lover. Gracious 'tis,
Ay, passing sweet, to mark the cautious pace
Of slow-returning spring, e'en from the time

When first the matted apricot unfolds
Its tender bloom, till the full orchard glows.—HURDIS.

In our description of February last year we only made slight mention of the rooks. We will now endeavour to do more justice to the habits of these dusky gentlemen, who go marching over field and furrow as if they were alone the sole proprietors of the land. Like many other social communities, they are made up of good and bad, and, in spite of a tolerably vigilant police, are not free from the depredations of their own light-fingered gentry, who do not hesitate to carry away the whole of a neighbour's house when his back is turned; or sometimes instead of removing it, they take possession, and although generally turned out in the end, they have been seen to maintain their ground with a spirit worthy of a better cause. Sometimes a young married couple having laid a good solid foundation for their future home, return with a couple of rafters in their beaks, which, after a careful survey, they have borne over hill and valley, with weary wings, an immense distance; when, lo! instead of finding the half-finished house as they left it, the very foundation is gone, and nothing but the naked fork of the branch on which it was laid remains. Well may they bob their heads and caw to one another, and wonder what impudent thieves have been so busy during their absence. They set out on the search, and find on the next tree every stick and stake twisted into another nest, on which one of the plunderers is resting, while the other robber, a down-looking dark-faced rascal, is perched on the branch beside his companion. After exchanging a word or two of a sort on each side, the battle commences: the whole neighbourhood is alarmed; the police interfere; and being beaten the culprits are driven out—transported to some solitary tree—and not allowed during that season to return to the rookery.

Your rooks are not a proud people, who refuse to mingle with strangers, for they will frequently allow the noisy jackdaws to build beside them, and are not above dining with the starlings in winter, so long as they conduct themselves respectfully. Every one who has rambled out in spring or summer must have noticed the hundreds of small caterpillars which are often seen suspended by their own threads from the trees, especially the oak, the beautiful foliage of which they soon destroy. Here the rooks find a rich repast; and instead of waiting until the insects have spun their way to the ground, these birds alight upon the trees, and, fluttering their great black wings, send down the caterpillars in thousands, and having strewn the greensward with a plentiful banquet, the rooks then descend and eat their fill.

Although the hooded crows do not live and build together in common like the rooks, but in pairs, and generally at some distance, yet they hold what naturalists have called a Crow-Court. For two or three days may they be seen assembling together on some particular hill or field; and Dr. Edmonson, in his work on the "Shetland Islands," describes them as delaying the trial for a day or two, until sufficient numbers have arrived to form the court. Whether the prisoners are driven thither by force, or come to defend themselves, are found guilty by witnesses, or what, cannot be known, though it is an undisputed fact, that the whole assembly are heard to croak as if in argument; that this lasts for some time—when the court rises like one *crow*, and begins to peck and beat the prisoners to death. Sometimes three or four of these victims are left dead on the floor of the court; and when the execution is over, the whole tribe disperse, betaking themselves in couples to their solitary trees, nor ever assembling together again in numbers until the next great crow-court is summoned.

The swallow and the martin, if the weather is very favourable, often arrive by the end of this month, and we hear the old familiar twittering under the eaves in the early morning.

"The nest of a bird," says Mr. Crouch, "is so interesting an object, so curiously and admirably contrived for an evident purpose, of materials apparently so little calculated for the formation of such a structure, and its form and position are so varied according to the aptitude for comfort of its inhabitants, combined with security from discovery and danger, that it has ever been contemplated as a surprising manifestation of skill and intelligence in the little beings engaged in its fabrication."

Some to the holly hedge
Nestling repair, and to the thicket some;
Some to the rude protection of the thorn
Commit their feeble offspring.—THOMSON.





M D	W D	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN. Souths.					MOON. Souths.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.					HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.		Page of the Year.
			Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises. Morning.	After- noon.	Height above horizon.	Sets. Morning.	Before Sunrise.			Moon's Arc.	After Sunset.			Morning.	Afternoon.	
											O'Clock.	2h.	4h.		5h.	O'Clock.	7h.				8h.	10h.
1	Th	Ember Week	6 48	12 35	31 1/2	5 38	10 12	5 49	54 1/4	0 24				6				6 15	6 35	60
2	F	St. Chad	6 46	12 23	31 1/2	5 39	10 57	6 46	56	1 34				8				7 2	7 30	61
3	S	Capella souths 6h. 19m. P.M.	6 44	12 10	31 1/2	5 41	11 49	7 44	56 1/4	2 39				8				8 4	8 40	62
4	S	2ND S. in LENT	6 42	11 56	32 1/4	5 43	Afternoon	8 41	55 1/2	3 38				9				9 25	10 10	63
5	M	Sirius souths 7h. 45m. P.M.	6 40	11 43	32 1/4	5 44	1 55	9 37	53 1/2	4 28				9				10 53	11 40	64
6	Tu	Castor souths 8h. 23m. P.M.	6 38	11 29	33 1/2	5 46	3 5	10 30	50 1/2	5 10				10				No Tide.	0 15	65
7	W	Perpetua	6 36	11 14	33 1/2	5 48	4 16	11 21	47	5 44				11				0 44	1 10	66
8	Th	Eclipse of Moon	6 33	10 59	33 3/4	5 50	5 28	Morning	43	6 14				12				1 37	2 0	67
9	F	Procyon souths 8h. 22m. P.M.	6 31	10 44	34 1/2	5 51	6 36	0 10	38 3/4	6 41				13				2 20	2 40	68
10	S	Pollux souths 8h. 23m. P.M.	6 28	10 28	34 1/2	5 53	7 45	0 57	34 1/2	7 6				14				3 0	3 20	69
11	S	3RD S. in LENT	6 26	10 12	35 1/2	5 55	8 52	1 43	30 1/2	7 32				15				3 35	3 53	70
12	M	St. Gregory	6 24	9 55	35 1/4	5 57	9 56	2 28	27	7 58				16				4 10	4 25	71
13	Tu	Regulus souths 10h. 34m. P.M. [1757]	6 21	9 39	35 3/4	5 59	10 59	3 13	24	8 22				17				4 45	5 0	72
14	W	Adm. Byng shot,	6 18	9 22	36	6 0	At Midnight	3 58	21 1/2	8 51				18				5 15	5 35	73
15	Th	Castor souths 7h. 52m. P.M.	6 16	9 5	36 1/2	6 2	Morning.	4 44	19 3/4	9 23				19				5 50	6 7	74
16	F	Procyon souths 7h. 54m. P.M.	6 13	8 47	36 3/4	6 4	0 56	5 30	19	10 1				20				6 25	6 45	75
17	S	St. Patrick	6 11	8 30	37 1/4	6 6	1 50	6 18	19	10 45				21				7 5	7 30	76
18	S	4TH S. in LENT	6 9	8 12	37 1/2	6 8	2 39	7 6	20	11 34				22				8 0	8 45	77
19	M	[Edward King of West Sax.	6 7	7 54	38	6 9	3 23	7 55	22	Afternoon				23				9 24	10 5	78
20	Tu	Spring Qr. begins	6 5	7 36	38 1/2	6 11	4 2	8 44	24 3/4	1 31				24				10 45	11 25	79
21	W	Benedict	6 3	7 18	38 3/4	6 12	4 37	9 34	28 1/4	2 38				25				No Tide.	At Noon.	80
22	Th	Follux souths 7h. 37m. P.M.	6 1	7 0	39	6 14	5 8	10 24	32 1/2	3 49				26				0 30	0 55	81
23	F	Weber died, 1829	5 59	6 42	39 1/2	6 15	5 37	11 14	—	5 3				27				1 15	1 35	82
24	S	[Ann. Lady Day	5 57	6 23	40	6 17	6 5	Afternoon	37	6 18				28				1 55	2 15	83
25	S	5TH S. in LENT,	5 54	6 5	40 1/2	6 18	6 33	0 58	41 3/4	7 36				29				2 33	2 50	84
26	M	Pr. Geo. Wm. brn.	5 52	5 47	40 3/4	6 20	7 2	1 51	46 1/4	8 54				30				3 10	3 30	85
27	Tu	[1819	5 50	5 28	41 1/4	6 22	7 34	2 47	50 1/4	10 11				31				3 49	4 10	86
28	W	Abercromby died,	5 47	5 10	41 1/2	6 24	8 11	3 43	53 1/2	11 25				32				4 30	4 50	87
29	Th	[1801	5 45	4 51	42	6 26	8 54	4 41	55 1/2	Morning.				33				5 13	5 35	88
30	F	Camb. Term ends	5 43	4 33	42 1/2	6 28	9 45	5 39	56 1/4	0 34				34				5 57	6 20	89
31	S	Ox. Term ends	5 41	4 14	42 3/4	6 30	10 43	6 37	56	1 34				35				6 50	7 20	90

MARCH.

THE SUN is in the sign Pisces till the 20th, on which day, at 5h. 13m. P.M., he enters the sign Aries (the Ram), and Spring commences. On the 1st day he is 94,195,000 miles from the Earth. He rises on the 1st at 2° S. of E. by S.; on the 20th, at the E.; and on the 31st, at 6° N. of E. He sets on the same days respectively, at 2° S. of W. by S., at the W., and at 7° N. of W. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are shown every day on the opposite page.

THE MOON is in the constellation Taurus on the 1st and 2nd; on the 3rd, in Orion, and crossing the Milky Way; in Gemini on the 4th; in Cancer on the 5th and 6th; in Leo on the 7th and 8th; in Virgo from the 9th to the 12th; in Libra on the 13th and 14th; in Ophiuchus on the 15th and 16th; near Aquila and Sagittarius on the 17th and 18th; in Sagittarius on the 19th; in Capricornus on the 20th; in Aquarius on the 21st and 22nd; in Pisces on the 23rd; near both Pisces and Cetus on the 24th and 25th; in Cetus on the 26th; near Cetus and Aries on the 27th; in Taurus on the 28th, 29th, and 30th; and in Gemini on the 31st.

She rises before the Sun sets till the 8th, after sunset till the 23rd, and after sunrise from the 24th. She sets before sunrise till the 8th, during the day till the 24th, and after sunset from the 25th. For the actual times, see the opposite page.

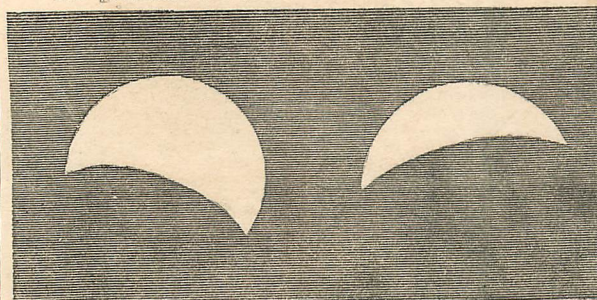
She is on the Equator on the 10th and on the 24th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given, for every day, on the opposite page.

She is near Jupiter on the 6th; Mars on the 21st; Mercury on the 22nd; Saturn on the 24th; Uranus on the 25th; and Venus on the 27th.

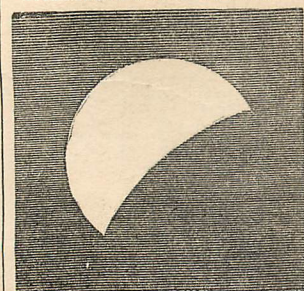
She is full on the 9th, and new on the 24th; and an Eclipse of the Moon takes place at the former time.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE MOON begins at London, on the 8th, at 11h. 25m. P.M.; and its successive appearances are shown in the accompanying diagram.

APPEARANCE OF THE MOON DURING HER ECLIPSE.



AFTER THE MIDDLE OF THE ECLIPSE.



9d. 1h. 40m. A.M.

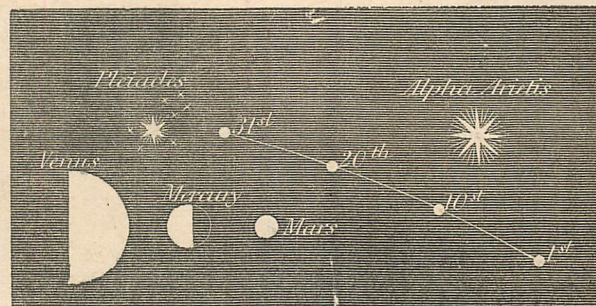
The middle of the Eclipse occurs on the 9th, at 0h. 55m. A.M.; and the annexed diagram shows the appearance of the Moon after this time, which ends at 2h. 25m. A.M. This is the only visible Eclipse during the year.

MERCURY is in the constellation Aquarius till the 30th; and on the 31st he passes into that of Pisces.

He is a morning star; and rises, on the 1st, at 41m.; on the 7th, 8th, and 9th, at 50m.; on the 10th, at 49m.; and on the last day, at 32m., before the Sun. He is not very favourably situated for observation. He sets before the Sun throughout the month. He rises, on the 1st, at 2° E. by S.; on the 15th, at 8° S. of E. by S. He is moving westward among the stars from the 1st to the 7th; is stationary on the 8th; and is moving

eastward from the 9th to the 31st. He is near the Moon on the 22nd, and at his greatest west elongation on the same day. His telescopic appearance at this time is shown in the annexed diagram.

APPEARANCE OF VENUS ON THE 1ST; OF MERCURY ON THE 22ND; AND OF MARS ON EVERY DAY; AND THE PATH OF VENUS IN THE HEAVENS DURING THE MONTH.



The planets are drawn on a scale of 40 seconds of arc to one inch; and the path of Venus with respect to the fixed stars is on a scale of 15 degrees to one inch.

VENUS is in the constellation of Aries till the 30th; and in that of Taurus on the 31st.

She is an evening star; and sets, on the 1st, at 10h. 10m. P.M.; on the 6th, at 10h. 21m.; on the 12th, at 10h. 33m.; on the 18th, at 10h. 44m.; on the 24th, at 10h. 51m. P.M.; and on the 31st, at 10h. 56m. P.M.; at 8° N. of W. by N. on the 1st; at W.N.W. on the 4th; and at N.W. by N. on the 23rd. She is moving eastward among the stars during the month; is at her greatest east elongation on the 1st; is in perihelion on the 10th; and near the Moon on the 27th. Her appearance on the 1st, and her path in the heavens, are shown in the annexed diagram.

MARS is in the constellation Capricornus throughout the month.

He is a morning star; and rises, on the 1st, at 5h. 27m. A.M., at the S.E. by E.; and on the last day, at 4h. 25m. A.M., at 1° S. of the E.S.E. point of the horizon. His times of southing are given below; and he sets between 1h. and 2h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 21st.

JUPITER is in the constellation Cancer throughout the month.

He is visible throughout the night. He rises, on the 1st, at 2h. 55m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 0h. 45m. P.M.; souths at an altitude of 56° nearly on the 1st, and of 56° at the end of the month, this altitude being the greatest he attains during the year. He sets between 4h. and 6h. A.M. He is moving slowly westward among the stars till the 27th, after which time he is nearly stationary among them, and is near the Moon on the 6th.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Emersions of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd are visible; those of the 1st re-appear at less than one-half; those of the 2nd, at greater than one-half; and those of the 3rd, at one diameter of the Planet nearly. On the 5th, both an Immersion and an Emersion of the 4th are visible; it immerses at the distance of one diameter, and emerges at the distance of two diameters. All these phenomena take place to the left as seen through a non-inverting telescope, and to the right of the Planet as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Pisces till the 9th; and in that of Cetus from the 10th till the end of the year.

He is an evening star at the beginning of the month; and sets, on the 1st day, at 6h. 57m. P.M. Towards the end of the month, he rises, souths, and sets at the same times as the Sun; and is not favourably situated for observation. He moves eastward among the stars, is in conjunction with the Sun on the 18th, and is near the Moon on the 24th.

URANUS sets near the W. by N., on the 1st, at 9h. 18m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 7h. 30m. P.M. He souths before the Sun sets; and is, therefore, not visible at these times. He moves slowly eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 25th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.					OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.						
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.		Jupiter.		Saturn.								
	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Names of the Stars.		Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.		
											Eclipses of						

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.

Days of the Month.	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	First Quarter	Perigee	Apogee	Perigee
1	22h. 4m.	8° 31'	1h. 38m.	12° 32'	20h. 13m.	20° 55'	9h. 10m.	17° 25'
6	21 54	10 30	1 56	14 44	20 29	20 6	17 34	23 50
11	21 55	11 39	2 14	16 49	20 44	19 12	17 42	23 53
16	22 5	11 54	2 31	18 44	21 0	18 13	17 49	23 55
21	22 22	11 21	2 47	20 28	21 15	17 9	17 54	23 57
26	22 42	10 5	3 2	22 0	21 30	16 1	17 58	0 0

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.

Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.
1	22h. 4m.	8° 31'	1h. 38m.	12° 32'	20h. 13m.	20° 55'	9h. 10m.	17° 25'	23h. 48m.	3° 31'	1h. 15m.	7° 17'
6	21 54	10 30	1 56	14 44	20 29	20 6	17 34	23 50	3 16	1 16	7 23	7 23
11	21 55	11 39	2 14	16 49	20 44	19 12	17 42	23 53	3 2	1 17	7 28	7 28
16	22 5	11 54	2 31	18 44	21 0	18 13	17 49	23 55	2 47	1 18	7 34	7 34
21	22 22	11 21	2 47	20 28	21 15	17 9	17 54	23 57	2 32	1 19	7 41	7 41
26	22 42	10 5	3 2	22 0	21 30	16 1	17 58	0 0	2 17	1 20	7 47	7 47

MARCH.—PRIMROSE AND PALM GATHERING.



O Spring! dear Spring! thou more dost bring
Than birds, or bees, or flowers—
The good old time, the holy prime
Of Easter's solemn hours:
Prayers offer'd up, and anthems sung,
Beneath the grey church towers—*Fasts and Festivals.*

PALM-SUNDAY, was an old holiday which our ancestors kept with great reverence, in remembrance of Our Saviour's entrance into Jerusalem; and it is still a custom to ornament the houses in the country with the silvery buds of the willow (which are called palm) in the present day. These buds, which lie like great oval pearls upon the slender stems of the osiers, are the earliest heralds of spring, and often come out long before the hawthorn has put forth a single speck of green, and may frequently be seen in the cottage windows overtopping a border of sweet primroses, snowdrops, or violets, which have blown before the coming of Easter. Many a mild March day has seen us out with our youthful companions in the fields beside the river Trent, gathering the buds of the willow and the white blossoms of the blackthorn, which also hang upon the hedges, like a cloud of flowers, long before a green leaf, excepting that of the alder, has shot out of its wintry sheath. Although it was not the palm of Palestine we gathered, yet it was such as our forefathers had for centuries chosen as the emblem of those green branches which were scattered before Our Redeemer; and to us it brought back an old and holy

picture, carrying the imagination into that ancient city of the East, and bringing before the "mind's eye" one of those impressive scenes which are linked with the establishment of the Christian religion. It also calls up the figures of those pious pilgrims who wandered into the Holy Land and visited many a distant shrine, bearing the palm-branch in their hands—the acknowledged token of peace and prayer.

The abolition of these sacred emblems, which once adorned our churches, and were borne in our Easter processions, could be of no benefit to the progress of religion. They were the productions of Nature, not the work of man: they served to show that He who ruleth the seasons had again sent Spring with all her flowers; and with these were linked the memory of the Son of God, who rode not forth in regal purple, crowned with gold, but "meek, and sitting upon an ass." Such associations did the silver buds bring to the early Christians, and the custom of palm-gathering was kept up until the Reformation in England.

With what delight did we hail the first appearance of these pearl-like buds—

they told us that spring was near at hand; the sun also came to throw his light upon them two hours earlier than he did a few weeks ago, and in the budding hedges we had already discovered the sky-stained eggs of the hedge-sparrow. Well can we remember the woods where we gathered the first primroses, and which were soon to be green with lilies of the valley. What a refreshing smell there was about the earth we dug up to get at the moss-covered roots of those early primroses, for they were the first treasures which we transplanted to our little gardens, where, day by day, they lost that beautiful bloom which they only bear in the solitude of the wildwood. The sounds of youthful voices seem in accordance with the opening of this happy season, as they fall at intervals upon the ear, filling up the pauses which occur between the singing of the blackbird or the thrush, and wafting pleasant memories to the wanderer, telling him that eager eyes are already watching the opening beauties of the flowers.

I love to see the little goldfinch pluck
The groundsel's feather'd seed, and twitting, twit;
And soon in bower of apple-blossoms perched,
Trim his gay suit, and pay us with a song—HURDIS.

Above a thousand years ago, our Saxon forefathers had no other landmarks to distinguish the boundaries of their estates than the objects of Nature—a tree, a bush, or a water-course, served them instead of walls and hedges; and we can almost fancy that we are overlooking those old English landscapes while reading one of their ancient deeds of conveyance. One estate is mentioned in a deed, dated 886, as stretching along from Sheep-lea to the Broad Bramble, past the Old Gibbet-place and the Old Ford, along the Deep-dell, to the Thorn on the Mere, thence to the Red-cross, by the stream of Alders, up the Milk-valley by the Foresters' Mark, and along the Hay-meadow. Another goes from the Bridge by the Eel-ditch, past the Bourn and the Great Willow, from the Hoary Thorn to the Oak-tree, by the Three Hills and the Thorn Maple to the Three Trees, the Deep Brook and the Clear Pool, by the Black Willow, the Nettle Island, the Sedge Moor, past the Burrows, the Hillock, the Ship Oak, the Great Aspen, by the Reedy Slough, and onward to the Hoary Apple Tree beyond the Wolf-pit.

What an assemblage of old poetical names have we here: we can see the half-drained and half-cultivated country; we can picture it in miry March with its reedy meres and impassable sloughs—the rude wooden bridge by which the ploughman crossed over the quaking bog to get at the rich land which lay beyond. Yet amid these wilds and old forest-fastnesses the violets and primroses blowed as they do now, and the Saxon serf was cheered by the skylark's song while he laboured in those old hedgeless wastes. The bleating of young lambs was then heard upon the wold—the ice-fre'd brooks rolled merrily along; and though he fared hard by day, and at night had a block of wood for his pillow, Nature was still his comforter, and he found solace in the sights and sounds, that greeted his eye and ear, when he wandered along over the opening daisies.

Although the trees are leafless, there is something about a mild sunny day at the close of March which tells us that all the out-of-door world is alive—that the very air which seemed so silent in winter now murmurs with life, while a thousands insects are dancing about overhead, as if rejoicing that the time of flowers is so near at hand. The winding roads have on such days a dry, warm, summer look, and you can scarcely peer under any hedge without discovering on the sun-lit bank the silent progress that spring is making; for here and there the starry celandine has thrown open its golden-rayed flower, and the furze hung out its burning blossoms, which shoot up like a thousand flames from a green chandelier. Now the first bee comes blundering abroad, and running his black head against everything, as if not yet thoroughly awake. You wonder where he has hidden himself all the long winter, for you see at a glance that he belongs to no hive, but has his home somewhere in the neighbouring wood. What a summer sound his booming gives to the air; depend upon it he knows where the broadest primroses and sweetest violets blow; but he has gone to ransack yonder furze-bush, and will soon be busy rifling the yellow blossoms;

While the ploughman, near at hand,
Whistles o'er the furrow'd land,

giving all the air a "countryed smell," as he turns up the sleeping furrows, and causing you to sigh as you think of badly-drained streets and ill-ventilated houses, which you are doomed to breathe amongst in the City, places which rosy Health rarely plants her foot upon, for if she alights there the bloom upon her cheek at once begins to fade, and unless she hurries back to the breezy hills and greenwood sides, she will be compelled to bow her head in wan consumption's sickly lap.

So conducive to health is the aroma arising from the newly-ploughed earth, that we have frequently seen an invalid seated in a chair, secured to a kind of truck which was attached to the horses, and dragged along behind the ploughman, whose labour was not at all impeded by his passenger, excepting that it required more care when turning round at each end of the field. What heavy masses of clay at times cling to the ploughman's boots. You wonder how he manages to get along with such a clog to his heels; every stride he takes, the mass accumulates; and when, after many shakes, he gets rid of it, there lies a clod weighing pounds upon the furrow, the upper part bearing the impress of every nail in his boot. His hands are hard as horn through holding the plough; and if he has followed the same labour for years, there is a peculiar roundness about the shoulders which tells that the continued grasping of those bright shafts is no easy work.

The roads have a different appearance now from what they had a few months ago; there are more moving figures in the landscape, especially when it is market-day—such a scene as we have attempted to describe in a little poem, where

Busy forms move o'er the landscape brown
In twos and threes, for it is market-day.
Beyond those hills stretches a little town,
And thitherward the rusties bend their way,
Crossing the scene in red, and blue, and grey,
Now by the hedge-rows, now by oak-trees old,
As they by stile or low-thatched cottage stray.
Peep through the rounded hand, then you'll behold
Such scenes as Merland drew in frames of sunny gold

A laden ass, a maid with wicker maun,
A shepherd's lad driving his lambs to sell;
Gaudy-dress'd girls move in the sunny dawn.
Women whose cloaks become the landscape well
Farmers whose thoughts on crops and prices dwell.
An old man with his cow and calf draws near.
Anon you hear the village carrier's bell;
Then doth his grey old tilted cart appear.
Moving so slow, you think he never will get there.

But "slow and sure" has been for years his motto; and he will not only get there in time for the market, but stop and bait at a little road-side house, the swing sign of which you can just distinguish by the white post that supports it, on the left at the foot of the hill.

Now in the ponds and ditches may be seen hundreds of little frogs, and tadpoles with their round heads and long tails, bearing, at present, no more resemblance to a frog, than an egg does to a living bird. They are devoured in millions by the fishes. If they miss the jaws of the funny tribe, there are the newts ready to prey upon them: if they escape the newts, there are no end of water-fowl on the look-out: the snakefeeds upon them as soon as they can leap: stoats and weasels dine off them, when nothing better can be had; and they can scarcely move anywhere without meeting with an enemy. On no account ought frogs to be driven out of gardens that are infested with slugs; for these are a favourite food; and wherever frogs are found, the slugs soon disappear. The way in which the frog seizes its prey is by throwing its tongue forward. The action is quick as thought—no sooner is the tongue out than the slug has vanished: it is almost impossible for the eye to detect the action, it is so momentary. In winter the frog buries itself in the mud, at the bottom of ponds and ditches, where it remains until spring, when it comes forth; and you may then see on the top of the water a number of black spots floating in a jelly-like substance. These are the spawn, or eggs, in which the tiny tadpoles are enclosed. They possess the power of breathing through the skin; and it is no easy task to either hang or drown them. It is now stale information to state that the toad is not venomous, but is as perfectly harmless as the frog, and equally useful in gardens. It is an unnecessary cruelty to destroy these inoffensive reptiles: they have sufficient enemies without man waging war against them; he, of all, ought to be their protector.

I have a great love for those little dirty and noisy vagrants, the sparrows; who hide, and build, and breed under the smoky eaves, and come out, sometimes, as black as soot. Wherever man rears his house, they follow. They are always ready with their "good morning" as soon as it is light. They take possession above, and the mice below; both are rangers that will have no "nay." If man can contrive to live, they are resolved to live with him. For ages they have been his constant companions. The sparrow hops down and breakfasts with the fowls, without needing an invitation. In summer, he goes into the corn-rick, and helps himself bountifully. In winter, he goes into the harvest field, if it is near at hand; nor is he very particular about waiting until the corn is ripe, before he commences his banquet. In vain does the farmer set a price upon his head; he contrives to live, and die, and leave a large family of sparrows behind him, who know how to pick up a living as well as he did. The sparrows, like the rooks, have their mode of punishment; and when any culprit has committed himself, they raise a clamour loud enough to alarm a whole neighbourhood. It begins in a moment—they all set to at once; and when they have had their say, they leave the offender to his own reflections. They are hasty, but it is soon over with them; nor do they ever put their victim to death; but having beaten him, and told him their minds, they treat him as kindly as before. In one instance, when the house sparrows had undergone a long persecution, they beat a retreat, and built their nests in some adjoining trees—a proof, that, when compelled by danger, they could change their habits; and, like other birds, build amongst the branches, instead of under the thatch or beneath the eaves.

One of the great pleasures which a lover of nature finds in a March ramble, is the arrival of the birds, which keep dropping in by twos and threes, we know not from whence. Nearly first comes the little wren, with its beautiful plumage, so richly marked, that it is almost impossible to describe its varied colours. You know it at a glance; for it is always twisting the dark-lined head and neck over the shoulders. Then we see the tiny willow-wren, whose chirp may be heard until September. It is also elegantly marked—yellow, brown, and white, and fond of frequenting the osier-beds. The titmouse and yellow-hammer also begin to sing; and together with the skylark, blackbird, thrush, woodlark, wren, and several others, there is already such a spring concert opened, as makes a lover of nature leave his chimney corner, and go forth to listen to their "sweet piping."

Sweet were the sounds which through the green vale flow'd:
The gentle lambs bleated all summer long;
The spotted heifer from the upland lowed;
The speckled thrush struck up its piping song:
A mournful "coo" the blue wood-pigeon made,
Now high, now low, now lost—just as the spring breeze played.

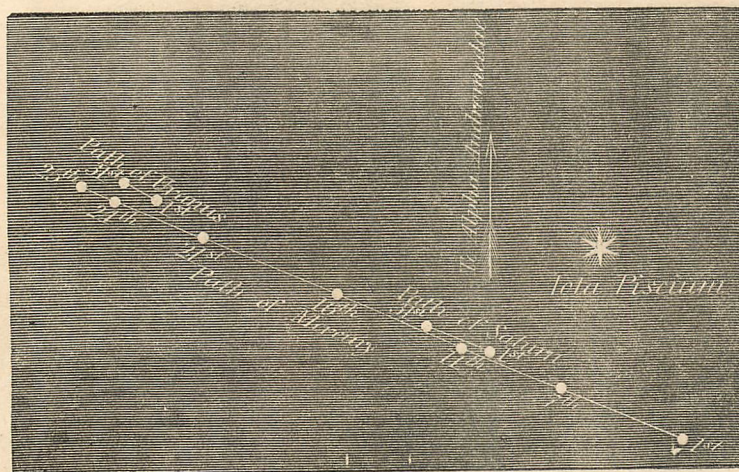




		SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.					HIGH WATER				Pay of the Year
		SOUTH.					SOUTH.										AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, PES- TIVALS, &c.	Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Before Sunrise.	O'clock.	After Sunset.	O'clock.	After Sunset.	Morning.	Afternoon				
D	D		h. m.	m. s.	Deg.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	Deg.	h. m.	h. m.	2h. 3h. 4h.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.			
1	S	PALM SUNDAY	5 38	3 56	43 1	6 31	11 42	7 32	54 1	2 26			8			7 50	8 30	91			
2	M	2nd Day in Pas-	5 36	3 38	43 3	6 33	Afternoon	8 25	51 1	3 10			9			9 15	9 59	92			
3	Tu	sion Week	5 34	3 20	44	6 35	2 4	9 16	48 1	3 45			10			10 40	11 25	93			
4	W	St. Ambrose	5 31	3 2	44 1	6 37	3 15	10 5	43	4 17			11			At Noon.	No Tide.	94			
5	Th	Maundy Thursd.	5 29	2 44	44 3	6 38	4 23	10 52	41 1	4 43			12			0 28	0 55	95			
6	F	GOOD FRIDAY	5 27	2 26	45	6 40	5 31	11 37	36 1	5 10			13			1 20	1 40	96			
7	S	Castor souths at 6h. 2m. P.M.	5 24	2 9	45 1	6 41	6 37	Morning.	32	5 32			14			2 0	2 15	97			
8	S	EASTER SUNDAY	5 22	1 52	45 3	6 43	7 43	0 22	28 1	5 57			15			2 35	2 50	98			
9	M	Easter Monday	5 20	1 35	46 1	6 44	8 47	1 7	25	6 23			16			3 10	3 25	99			
10	Tu	Easter Tuesday	5 18	1 18	46 1	6 45	9 49	1 52	22 1	6 50			17			3 40	4 0	100			
11	W	Procyon souths 6h. 12m. P.M.	5 15	1 2	47	6 47	10 48	2 38	20	7 21			18			4 15	4 30	101			
12	Th	Pollux souths 6h. 13m. P.M.	5 13	0 46	47 1	6 48	11 42	3 24	19 1	7 56			19			4 45	5 0	102			
13	F	Alpha Hydre souths 7h. 53m. P.M.	5 11	0 30	47 1	6 50	Morning.	4 11	18 1	8 38			20			5 20	5 35	103			
14	S	[Easter T. begins	5 9	0 15	48	6 52	0 32	4 59	20 1	9 25			21			5 54	6 10	104			
15	S	LOW SUNDAY.	5 7	At Noon.	48 1	6 54	1 18	5 47	20 1	10 18			22			6 35	7 0	105			
16	M	Passage of the Ky-	5 5	Before 12 o'clock.	48 1	6 55	1 59	6 35	23 1	11 16			23			7 25	8 0	106			
17	Tu	ber Pass by Gen. Pollock, 1842.	5 2	0 30	49	6 57	2 34	7 23	26 1	Afternoon			24			8 40	9 20	107			
18	W	Oxford and Cam-	5 0	0 43	49 1	6 59	3 6	8 12	30	1 26			25			10 0	10 35	108			
19	Th	bridge Term begins.	4 58	0 57	49 7	1	3 35	9 1	34 1	2 37			26			11 10	11 45	109			
20	F	Regulus souths 5h. 5m. P.M.	4 56	1 10	50	7 2	4 2	9 52	39 1	3 48			27			No Tide.	0 13	110			
21	S	Beta Leonis souths 9h. 42m. P.M.	4 55	1 23	50 1	7 4	4 30	10 43	44	5 8			28			0 38	1 0	111			
22	S	2ND S. aft. EAST.	4 53	1 35	50 7	6	5 0	11 37	—	6 28			29			1 20	1 40	112			
23	M	St. George	4 51	1 47	50 7	8	5 28	Afternoon	48 1	7 48			30			2 0	2 20	113			
24	Tu	Spica Virginis souths 11h. 5m. P.M.	4 49	1 58	51 7	10	6 6	1 30	52 1	9 7			1			2 45	3 5	114			
25	W	St. Mark Evan.	4 47	2 9	51 7	11	6 47	2 30	55	10 20			2			3 25	3 50	115			
26	Th	Princess Alice, M. born. 1843.	4 45	2 19	52 7	13	7 37	3 31	56 1	11 26			3			4 10	4 35	116			
27	F		4 43	2 29	52 7	14	8 34	4 30	56 1	Morning.			4			4 55	5 20	117			
28	S	Eta Bootis souths 11h. 20m. P.M.	4 41	2 38	52 7	16	9 36	5 28	55	0 23			5			5 45	6 10	118			
29	S	3RD S. aft. EAST.	4 39	2 47	53 7	17	10 44	6 22	52 1	1 11			6			6 40	7 10	119			
30	M	Arcturus souths 11h. 33m. P.M.	4 37	2 56	53 1	19	11 55	7 14	49 1	1 49			7			7 4	8 20	120			

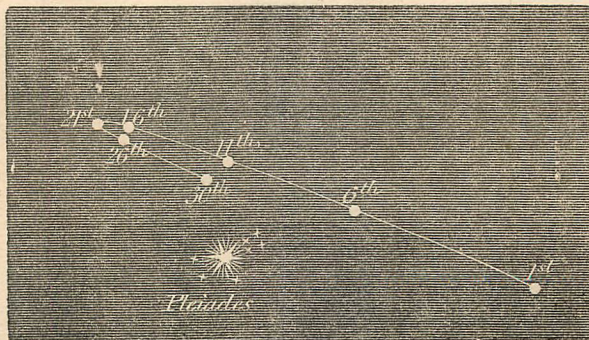
APRIL.

PATHS OF MERCURY, SATURN, AND URANUS, WITH RESPECT TO EACH OTHER AND TO THE FIXED STARS, DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF VENUS WITH RESPECT TO THE FIXED STARS, IN
APRIL, 1849.



Scale, 3 degrees to one inch.

URANUS sets near the W. by N. on the 1st at 7h. 41m. P.M. He moves slowly eastward among the stars of the constellation Taurus, and is seen in the Moon on the 22nd, and Mercury on the 23rd.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.					OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.	Jupiter.		Saturn.	Eclipses of		Names of the Stars.	Magnit. tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	1st Sat.	2nd Sat.	Emersion. E.	Immersion. I.						
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.						
1	11 32	2 39	9 10	8 21	11 24	4 2 3	3 A.M. E.	7 11 6	P.M. E.	Beta Virginis	3½	{ 5 6 45 P.M. 5 7 54 P.M.	Dark Bright		
6	10 39	2 31	9 5	8 1	11 6	5 8 32	P.M. E.	15 1 43	A.M. E.						
11	10 47	2 20	9 0	7 42	10 49	12 10 27	P.M. E.								
16	10 58	2 6	8 55	7 22	10 31	20 0 22	A.M. E.								
21	11 11	1 48	8 50	7 3	10 14	28 8 46	P.M. E.								
26	11 28	1 26	8 44	6 44	9 56			6 7 30	P.M. E.						
30	11 43	1 6	8 40	6 30	9 42			13 7 56	P.M. I.						
								13 11 30	P.M. E.						
								20 11 56	P.M. I.						

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.																
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.																
	Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.				
		Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.			
FULL MOON	..	7d. 3h. 50m.	P.M.	1	23h. 11m	7° 44'	3h. 18m	23° 34'	21h. 48m	14° 35'	9h. 1m	18° 0'	0h. 2m	2° 0'	1h. 21m	7° 54'
LAST QUARTER	..	15 7 8	P.M.	6	23 37	5 10	3 30	24 36	22 3	13 19	9 1	18 1	0 5	1 46	1 22	8 1
NEW MOON	..	22 11 54	P.M.	11	0 6	2 6	3 39	25 22	22 18	12 0	9 1	18 1	0 7	1 32	1 23	8 7
FIRST QUARTER	..	29 2 17	P.M.	16	0 36	North.	3 44	25 50	22 33	10 39	9 1	17 59	0 9	1 18	1 24	8 14
APOGEE	..	12 10	A.M.	21	1 9	5 19	3 46	25 57	22 47	9 15	9 2	17 55	0 11	1 5	1 25	8 20
PERIGEE	..	24 10	A.M.	26	1 45	9 30	3 44	25 40	23 1	7 50	9 3	17 51	0 13	0 52	1 26	8 25

APRIL.-ANGLING.



A fool! a col!—I met a ooli' the forest.
A motley fool! a miserable world!
As I do live by food, I met a fool.
"Good morrow, fool," quoth I.—SHAKESPEARE.

WHAT merry "quirks and cranks" have we seen played on April-fool Day! What gushes of laughter have rung out, as one after another was beguiled by this harmless foolery! Who ever forgot the old shoemaker's shop by the roadside, where we sent some witting for a pennyworth of stirrup-oil, and who invariably got thrashed by the old cobbler's stirrup-leather? At any hour we can picture the sheepish look of the boy—see him holding out his saucer, while a twinkling of merriment gathered about the wrinkled corners of the old man's grey eyes, as he unloosed the strap from his foot and knee; and, although the hardest blow he struck would scarcely have killed a fly, yet what roars of hearty laughter we sent forth as we saw the little simpleton scamper off, and beheld the merry shoemaker shaking his strap as he stood at his shop-door, in the sunshine of an April morning. Then there was pigeon-milk to be sent for at the milk-house; and here, perhaps, the tables were turned upon us, for the youth we sent, although he pretended ignorance, took the mug and the penny, and going in at once, asked for a halfpennyworth of milk, put the other halfpenny in his pocket, then came out boldly, and said, "Here it is;" while we looked at each other, and confessed that he had made April fools of us. Then what shoes we said were untied—handkerchiefs dropped—hats crushed—black spots on the face,

which we sent them to the glass to look at—where they only got laughed at for their pains.

Wicked and not always harmless errands did we also send others upon. Mr. Somebody wanted to borrow the large brewing tub, and the lender went toiling with it in a barrow: the load was almost more than he could wheel; and when he arrived at his journey's end, the pretended borrower only called him an April fool. He had his joke, and we our laugh; but never again had he the loan of the brewing tub. We sent the doctor post-haste to some one who was hearty and well, and probably busied in his garden. We had the fire-engine brought a mile or two; then laughed at the old man as we pointed out the leaden pump for him to play upon. Pigs had fallen into imaginary wells; horses and donkeys we pounded, then laughed at the owners, who never for a moment thought of looking into their own fields or stables until they returned. Yet very rarely did these tricks provoke any anger; all was considered fair on April-fool Day, for every one was disposed to be merry; and very often the laugh was as loud on the part of the deceived as the deceivers, and small sympathy did he obtain who lost his temper on the first of April.

Even grave sober matrons unbent their staid brows at our jokes; they recalled

the days when they also were young, and had their jokes—when they got their lovers to hunt for a needle they had never dropped, or to stoop for a cotton-ball which was safely deposited in their laps. Such tricks seem to sit lightly, even on the conscience of old age; they bring no regrets. Though we have known a swain sent ten miles to see his sweetheart, by an urgent letter, yet the laugh they enjoyed together seemed, somehow, to sweeten the long and unnecessary journey. April-fool Day was a merry time with our forefathers, who appear never to have lost a chance of making themselves happy whenever they could.

Spring-time stirred the blood of the great father of English poetry, Chaucer. He could not lie in bed when the daisies were opening. He tells us that he then found no delight in his books; that when he heard the birds sing, and saw the flowers beginning to blow, he bade farewell to his study; that he loved the daisies above all the flowers that grew; that scarcely a morning dawned in spring but what he rose early. As he himself says:—

—I am up and walking in the mead,
To see this flower against the sun spread.
When it upriseth, early on the morrow,
That blissful sight softenth all my sorrow.
So glad am I, when that I have presence
Of it, to do it all reverence,
As she that is of all flowers the flower,
Fulfilled of all virtue and honour,
And ever alike fair, and fresh of hue.

And ever I love it, and ever alike new,
And ever I shall, till that mine heart die.
There loveth no one hotter in his life,
And when that it is eve I run blithe,
As soon as ever the sun sinketh west,
To see this flower how it will go to rest,
For fear of night—so hateh she darkness.
Her cheer is plainly spread in the brightness
Of the sun—for there it will unclose.

There has been a great outcry of late amongst many good and well-meaning people on the capturing and rearing of young birds. They have pronounced it barbarous and cruel in the extreme, however kindly they may be reared. Now this is a strange contradiction. Kindness cannot be cruelly, even if misapplied. Youth of both sexes who rear up birds do their utmost generally to keep them alive; and we have no hesitation in asserting that an attendance upon the wants of these little chirrupers cultivates kind and affectionate feelings, softens the heart, and contributes towards the making of better men and women than they would otherwise have grown into, had it not have been for these necessary attentions. A girl will weep, and a kind-hearted boy be sorry, for the death of a favourite bird. And while such things help to refine the feelings, and are unaccompanied by cruelty, it is surely better that a half-fledged nestling should perish, now and then, through excess of kindness, than such virtuous emotions be stifled. We dare not put the number of young birds that are carried off, and devoured by hawks, weasels, &c., against the few that die through over-nursing; although a good argument might be twisted out of such matter.

But, whatever may be said about birds, no such charge can be brought against flowers; and as the following passage, which we wrote some years ago in praise of these "bowing adorers of the gale," has appeared in several publications without the acknowledgment of our name, we think it but justice to claim our own:—

"Who would wish to live without flowers? Where would the poet find his images of beauty, if they were to perish? Are they not the emblems of loveliness and innocence, and the living types of all that is pleasing and graceful? We compare young lips to the rose, and the white brow to the radiant lily; the winning eye is blue as the violet, and the sweet voice like a breeze kissing its way through the flowers. We hang delicate blossoms on the silken ringlets of the young bride, and strew her path with fragrant flowers as she leaves the church. We place them around the marble face of the dead in the narrow coffin, and they become emblems of our affections—of pleasures remembered and hopes faded—wishes vanished, and scenes cherished in memory, all the more, because they can never return. We look to the far-off spring in other valleys—to the eternal summer beyond the grave, where flowers that never fade bloom in those starry fields, which no chilly winter ever blew over. They come upon us in spring like the remembrance of a pleasant dream—a vision that hovered above us in sleep, peopled with shadowy beauties and simple delights, embroidered with the richest hues of fancy. Sweet flowers!—that bring back again the scenes of childhood—faces remembered in youth—the love that knew not it was love! Even in our rooms they conjure up images of the mossy bank by the wayside, where we so often gazed upon the early primroses. They recall the sheltered glen, darkly green, filled with the perfume of violets, that showed like another sky amid the scene. The sweet song of the village maiden again rings upon our ears while we gaze on them, and we remember those modest eyes "that ever loved the ground," and the time we first beheld them—

Fix'd as a pilgrim's—wilder'd in his way,
Who dare not stir by night, for fear to stray,
But stands with awful eyes to watch the dawn of day.—DRYDEN.

What a mystery seems to hang about an old wood when the trees are covered with leaves, and the underwood is thick and impassable. We know not what flowers are growing in those untrodden solitudes; we cannot tell what birds build and hide in those hidden coverts; what badgers, weasels, polecats, martens, and snakes burrow, hide, climb, and bask, under ground and in the hollows of trees, about the great mossy branches, and on the unexplored banks, which accumulated leaves, and natural water-courses, and huge fallen trees have formed. It is this very difficulty of seeing beyond the few feet around us, that makes a wood so solemn. A hill or a moorland may be lonely, but there the view is open, whereas in the heart of an old wood all around us is dim shadow, green, and mysterious. Many of the trees are large and aged; and we feel that we are in the presence of strange things, that have grown old in light and darkness for centuries; that they have outlived all other living things, and around them there hangs a kind of reverential awe, such as makes us marvel not that in the early ages, when England was first peopled, they were worshipped by the Druids and their followers. Then we come upon deep dells, over which the gnarled and withered stem leans, and the foliage darkens, and we marvel how these great hollows were first formed, for nowhere do they bear a trace of the hand of man. We know that the ancient Britons kept their corn in subterranean places, which have slept undisturbed through the silence of many centuries. All traces of the work of these early excavations is buried beneath the accumulated gatherings of a thousand autumns and winters, which have cast down and rotted their leaves.

Here quivering aspens bow before the gale,
And hawthorns bloom hid in sunless shade;
The mournful ring-love coos her tender tale,
The holly's shining leaves are here display'd,
While silver birches overhang the glade;
The towering elm shelters the dusky rook,
The hazel in green beauty is arrayed,
The alder hanger o'er the crisped brook
In which the willow flowers in silence ever look.

And in such a spot the sudden starting of a large pheasant from out the deep underwood, as it goes with a loud "whur-r-r" high up amid the foliage, causes the lonely wanderer to spring back unconsciously, though he smiles the next moment at this needless alarm.

As Angling has already commenced, we shall glance at a few of the finny inhabitants of our streams and rivers; first beginning with the stickleback, with its three spines, which can either be raised or lowered at will, and which seems

fit for nothing but food for other fishes and the amusement of boys. "I know not," says quaint old Izaak Walton, "where he dwells in winter, nor what he is good for in summer." He is, however, a great ornament to a glass globe; his colours are splendid; and by a constant changing of the water every two or three days, he has lived in his glass house for two or three years. The minnow, which first appears in March, although so small, has a flavour equal to many of our more celebrated fish, especially when fried with the flowers of primroses and cowslips, and the yolks of eggs and butter—a dish delicate enough for the most imaginative of poets, though it was at one time very common. In summer they are full of spawn, and not so good as in spring. Everybody knows that a small red worm is a sufficient bait, that three or four hooks may be used at once, and sometimes as many fish be drawn out at a time, for they always bite eagerly.

The bull-head, or miller's-thumb, with its immense head, large mouth, and spiny teeth, though anything but pleasant to look upon, forms an excellent dish, and those who have never tasted it will be agreeably surprised when they partake of one, and regret that they are not to be met with oftener at the fishmonger's. He is very fond of hiding under a stone, beside which, if a worm be dropped down gently, he will dart upon it in an instant, for he never stops to consider a moment about the matter if the hook is well concealed.—The loche we have often caught in the river Trent; it is a long fish, without either scales or teeth, bearded like a barbel. It is often used as a bait, especially for eels. Next in succession comes the gudgeon, which, though "little, is good;" it is well known to the London angler, being plentiful in the Lea river—that river of old historical associations, where English Alfred drew off the water and left the fleet of Hastings, the celebrated Sea-king, high and dry around. It is rather a handsome-looking fish, broad in the middle, with a beautifully marked tail and back fin, and may be caught either with worm, gentle, or paste. The bait must touch the ground. It is fond of a gravelly situation. The bleak, or whiting, is a well-known fish, always on the move; is about six inches long, with large eyes, a small head, and silvery gills: the back is of a beautiful green colour. They are famous fly-catchers, and, from their rapid motions, are called water-swallows. Two or three hooks may be used, as in minnow fishing, and the same baits as for gudgeons. The flavour is very indifferent.

The dace, dart, shallow, dare, or by whatever name it is called, is a fast breeder, and during the summer months, very partial to playing about on the sunny surface of the water. It is found in many of our rivers, and appears to prefer such spots as are in constant motion, through the rolling of rapid currents and eddies. In cold weather it prefers a quiet hole, or the sheltered part of a stream overhung by the tall water-flags or tufted rushes. Its body is rather long, the back of palish green, varied with dusky marks, while the belly has a silvery appearance, and the fins a pale red tinge. It will almost take any bait in spring; neither worms, larvæ of beetles, grubs, caterpillars, or even water-snails, come amiss to it. They are sharp quick biters, requiring to be struck suddenly; and, as they are not to be drawn out without a good struggle, it is necessary to use strong tackle. Blaine makes mention of a pie made of dace and roach, which seems to have been

A dainty dish to set before a King;
For when the pie was open the guests began to sing.

And, according to his account, they would willingly have dined off such a pie, once a week, at least, as long as they lived. Roach-fishing so nearly resembles that of dace, that we shall not pause to describe it. The beautiful gold-coloured circle of the eye and the rich red fins are familiar to those who have seen the roach in good condition; nor is it to be mistaken, on account of its great breadth when laid on its side. It affords excellent sport to the angler, and has been caught from a pound to two, or more, in weight. We pass by the rudd, a fish which has led to much discussion, some considering it a species of dace, and others of carp, and come to the bream, with its high arched back, forked tail, and large eyes. When in fine condition and a good size, the bream has a rich golden colour, in place of the silvery hue it before wore. They are a cautious race, and the angler ought not to throw his shadow upon the water, but keep himself as much out of sight as possible. A warm, cloudy day is considered the most favourable for biting, and a red worm the best of baits. He is a fish rather too fond of sucking the bait, but this can be easily detected by watching the float: for our part, we never struck in too great a hurry when we detected this half nibbling; the better plan, we think, is to let him get well hold, or go if he chooses, though it is necessary to examine the bait after his departure. We must reserve a few remarks on this old and pleasant occupation for next month.





M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.					HIGH WATER					Day of the Year.
			Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	After- noon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	Before Sunrise.	O'Clock.	Moon's Age.	After Sunset.	O'Clock.	9h. 10h. 11h.	Morning.	Afternoon.			
D	D		H. M.	M. S.	Deg.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Deg.	H. M.	H. M.	1h. 2h. 3h.	Moon's Age.	O'Clock.	9h. 10h. 11h.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.				
1	Tu	<i>Philip. James</i>	4 35	3	53 ³ / ₄	7 21	1 6	8 3	45 ³ / ₄	2 20							9 0	9 40	121				
2	W	Regulus souths 7h. 13m. p.m.	4 33	3	11 54	7 23	2 15	8 50	41 ³ / ₄	2 48							10 20	11 0	122				
3	Th	<i>Invent. of Cross.</i>	4 31	3	17 54 ¹ / ₄	7 24	3 21	9 35	37 ¹ / ₂	3 14							11 33	At Mid- night.	123				
4	F	Beta Leonis souths 8h. 30m. p.m.	4 29	3	24 54 ¹ / ₂	7 26	4 28	10 20	33 ¹ / ₂	3 38							No Tide.	0 27	124				
5	S	[<i>St. John.</i>]	4 28	3	29 54 ³ / ₄	7 27	5 33	11 4	29 ¹ / ₂	4 2							0 50	1 12	125				
6	S	4th S. aft EASTER	4 26	3	35 55	7 29	6 37	11 49	26	4 26							1 33	1 53	126				
7	M	[East. Term ends	4 24	3	39 55 ¹ / ₂	7 30	7 39	Morning.	23	4 53							2 10	2 25	127				
8	Th	Half Quarter.	4 22	3	43 55 ³ / ₄	7 32	8 39	0 34	20 ³ / ₄	5 22							2 45	3 0	128				
9	W	Corporation and	4 21	3	47 56	7 34	9 37	1 20	19 ¹ / ₂	5 56							3 15	3 30	129				
10	Th	Test Acts repealed, 1528	4 19	3	50 56 ¹ / ₄	7 35	10 29	2 7	18 ³ / ₄	6 35							3 50	4 5	130				
11	F	Spica Virginis souths 9h. 53m.	4 17	3	52 56 ¹ / ₂	7 36	11 16	2 54	19	7 19							4 20	4 35	131				
12	S	[<i>Old May Day.</i>]	4 16	3	54 56 ³ / ₄	7 38	11 58	3 42	20	8 10							4 55	5 10	132				
13	S	ROGATION SUN.	4 14	3	55 57	7 39	Morning.	4 29	22	9 4							5 30	5 50	133				
14	M	The ILLUSTRATED LONDON News was first published on May 14, 1842	4 12	3	55 57 ¹ / ₄	7 41	0 35	5 17	24 ³ / ₄	10 5							6 10	6 35	134				
15	Th		4 11	3	55 57 ¹ / ₂	7 42	1 7	6 4	28 ¹ / ₄	11 9							7 0	7 27	135				
16	W	Zeta Bootis souths 10h. 9m. p.m.	4 10	3	54 57 ³ / ₄	7 44	1 36	6 52	32 ¹ / ₄								8 0	8 37	136				
17	Th	ASCENSION DAY.	4 8	3	53 58	7 45	2 4	7 41	36 ³ / ₄	1 29							9 15	9 50	137				
18	F	[<i>Holy Thursday</i>]	4 7	3	51 58	7 47	2 31	8 30	41 ¹ / ₂	2 42							10 25	11 0	138				
19	S	<i>St. Dunstan.</i>	4 5	3	49 5 ¹ / ₄	7 48	2 57	9 21	46 ¹ / ₄	3 59							11 30	11 55	139				
20	S	SUN aft Asc. DAY	4 4	3	46 58 ¹ / ₂	7 49	3 26	10 15	50 ¹ / ₂	5 18							No Tide.	0 25	140				
21	M	Arcturus souths at 10h. 10m. p.m.	4 3	3	42 58 ³ / ₄	7 51	3 59	11 12		6 39							0 45	1 10	141				
22	Tu	Trin. Term begins	4 1	3	38 59	7 52	4 37	Afternoon.	53 ³ / ₄	7 58							1 35	1 55	142				
23	W	Epsilon Bootis souths at 10h. 33m. p.m.	4 0	3	34 59 ¹ / ₄	7 53	5 23	1 14	56	9 10							2 20	2 45	143				
24	Th	Qu Vic. born 1819	3 59	3	29 59 ¹ / ₂	7 55	6 18	2 16	56 ³ / ₄	10 14							3 10	3 35	144				
25	F	Pr Helena b 1846	3 58	3	23 59 ¹ / ₂	7 57	7 21	3 17	56	11 7							3 55	4 20	145				
26	S	Ox. Term ends	3 57	3	17 59 ³ / ₄	7 58	8 29	4 15	54	11 50							4 45	5 10	146				
27	S	PENTECOST. Whit	3 56	3	10 59 ³ / ₄	7 59	9 41	5 9	51	Morning.							5 35	6 0	147				
28	M	SUNDAY. Camb. Term divides.	3 55	3	3 60	8 0	10 54	6 0	47 ¹ / ₄	0 25							6 30	6 57	148				
29	Th	K. Chas. II. rest.	3 54	2	56 60 ¹ / ₄	8 1	Afternoon.	6 48	43 ¹ / ₄	0 54							7 30	7 57	149				
30	W	Ember Week. Ox.	3 53	2	48 60 ¹ / ₂	8 2	1 12	7 31	39	1 21							8 32	9 15	150				
31	Th	Term begins	3 52	2	40 60 ¹ / ₂	8 3	2 20	8 19	34 ³ / ₄	1 44							9 45	10 15	151				

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

MAY.

THE SUN is in the sign Taurus till the 21st, on which day, at 5h. 18m. A.M., he enters Gemini (the Twins). On the 1st he is 95,792,000 miles from the earth. He rises on the 1st, at 1³⁴ N. of E.N.E.; and on the 25th, at the N.E. by N. He sets on the 1st at 1³⁴ N. of W.N.W.; and on the 25th, at the N.W. by N. points of the horizon. His times of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

The Moon is in the constellation Leo on the 1st and 2nd; and in Virgo from the 3rd to the 5th; in Libra from the 6th to the 8th; in Ophiuchus on the 9th and 10th; near Aquila and Sagittarius on the 11th and 12th; in Capricornus on the 13th; in Aquarius from the 14th to the 16th; in Pisces on the 17th; in Cetus on the 18th; near both Cetus and Pisces on the 19th; in Cetus on the 20th and 21st; in Taurus on the 22nd and 23rd; in Gemini on the 24th and 25th; in Cancer on the 26th; in Leo from the 27th to the 29th; and in Virgo till the end of the month.

She rises before the Sun sets, till the 6th; during the night, till the 21st; and after the Sun rises, from the 22nd. She sets before the Sun rises, till the 6th; during the day, till the 21st; and after the Sun sets, from the 22nd: for the actual time, see the opposite page.

She is on the Equator on the 3rd, on the 18th, and on the 31st. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Mars and Saturn on the 18th, Uranus on the 19th, Venus on the 21st, Mercury on the 23rd, and Jupiter on the 23rd.

She is full on the 7th, and new on the 22nd, but without an Eclipse at both times.

MERCURY is in the constellation Aries till the 6th; in Taurus from the 7th to the 27th; and in that of Gemini from the 28th.

He is an evening star from the 4th; and sets on the 10th at 50m.; on the 15th, at 1h. 24m.; on the 20th, at 1h. 50m.; on the 25th, at 2h. 3m.; and on the 31st, at 2h. 6m. after the Sun sets. These intervals of time are the longest in the year. At the end of this month, and the beginning of the next, this Planet is more favourably situated for observation than at any other time during the year. He sets on the 1st at the W.N.W.; on the 10th, at N.W. by N.; and on the last day, at 7° N. of N.W. by N. He is moving eastward among the stars during the month; is near Venus on the 8th, and the Moon on the 23rd. On the 3rd he is in superior conjunction with the Sun. His motion among the stars is very rapid after the middle of the month; and his path is shown in the annexed diagram, together with his telescopic appearance at different times in the month.

PATH OF MERCURY FROM MAY 12 TO MAY 31 WITH RESPECT TO THE FIXED STARS, AND THE TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE OF THE PLANET.



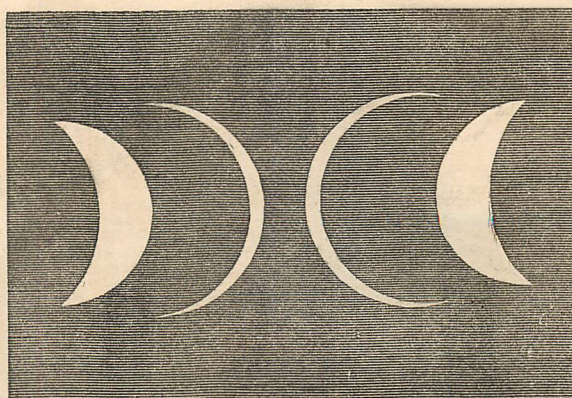
The appearances of the planet are drawn upon a scale of 40 seconds of arc to one inch; and the path of the planet is on a scale of 12 degrees to one inch.

VENUS is in the constellation Taurus till the 10th, and in that of Aries from the 11th to the 31st.

She is an evening star till the 14th, and a morning star after this time. She

sets on the 1st at 9h. 27m. P.M.; on the 6th, at 8h. 49m.; and on the 14th, at 7h. 41m. P.M. She rises on the 14th at 3h. 40m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 2h. 47m. A.M. She sets, on the 1st, at 6³⁴ N. of N.W. by N.; and on the 14th, at the N.W. by N. She rises, on the 14th, at N.E. by N.; and on the 31st, at 2° N. of E.N.E. She is moving slowly westward among the stars throughout the month; is near Mercury on the 8th, and the Moon on the 21st. She is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 12th. Her telescopic appearance undergoes rapid changes during the months of April, May, and June; as shown in the annexed engraving. The first appearance is that of the Planet about April 7; the second is that towards the end of April; the third is that towards the end of May; and the fourth is that about the middle of June.

TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF VENUS DURING THE MONTHS OF APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1849.



April 7. April 27. May 25. June 18.

Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

MARS is in the constellation Pisces till the 20th, on which day he passes into Cetus.

He is a morning star; and rises, on the 1st, at 3h. 8m. A.M. at 1° N. of E. by S.; on the 23rd, at 2h. 7m. A.M., at the E.; and on the 31st, at 1h. 47m. A.M. His times of southing are given below; and he sets at about 2h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 18th, and Saturn on the 25th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Cancer till the 16th; and in that of Leo from the 17th.

He is an evening star, and rises between 9h. and 11h. A.M.; souths at an altitude of 56³⁴ on the 1st, decreasing to 55³⁴ on the last day; and sets on the 1st at 2h. 5m. A.M., at 6° N. of W.N.W., and on the last day at 0h. 13m. A.M., at 4³⁴ N. of W.N.W. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 27th.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Emersions of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd are visible those of the 1st take place at the distance of one half; those of the 2nd at the distance of one; and that of the 3rd at the distance of one and a half diameter from the body of the Planet. An Immersion of the 4th satellite takes place on the 11th, and it disappears at the distance of one diameter. All these phenomena take place on the left hand of the Planet as seen through a non-inverting telescope, and on the right hand as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month. He is a morning star; and rises on the 1st, at 3h. 38m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 2h. 46m. A.M.; and on the 31st, at 1h. 45m. A.M.; on the 19th he rises at the east point of the horizon; is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 18th.

URANUS rises a little N. of E. by N. on the 1st, at 3h. 3m. A.M.; and on the last day at 2h. 7m. A.M. He is moving slowly eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 19th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of		Names of the Stars	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning.			1st. Sat.	2nd. Sat.					
	Emersion. E.	Immersion. I.												
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.			D. H. M.	D. H. M.					
6	11 47	1 0	8 39	6 26	9 38			5 10 40 P.M. E.	9 10 51 P.M. E.	95 Virginis	6	5 10 25 P.M.	Dark	
11	Aftern.	0 31	8 33	6 8	9 21			21 8 59 P.M. E.				5 11 25 P.M.	Bright	
16	0 33	At noon.	8 27	5 50	9 3			28 10 55 P.M. E.		Kappa Virginis	4	6 3 8 A.M.	Bright	
21	0 55	Morn.	8 22	5 32	8 45							6 3 42 A.M.	Bright	
26	1 15	11 0	8 16	5 15	8 27					Eta Libræ	4½	7 11 15 P.M.	Bright	
31	1 30	10 34	8 10	4 58	8 9							8 0 35 A.M.	Dark	
	1 39	10 11	8 4	4 41	7 51					13 Virginis	6	30 10 0 P.M.	Dark	
										Eta Virginis	3½	30 10 55 P.M.	Bright	
												30 10 25 P.M.	Dark	
												30 11 31 P.M.	Bright	

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.													
Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.		
	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion South.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion South.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	
	2h. 24m	13° 47'	3h 38m	24° 54'	23h. 16m	6° 22'	9h. 4m	17° 45'	0h. 15m	0° 40'	1h. 27m	8° 33'	
FULL MOON	..	7d. 7h.	7m. A.M.	6	3 6	17 51	3 28	23 30	4 54	9 6	17 38	0 17	0 28
LAST QUARTER	..	15 10	30 A.M.	11	3 49	21 17	3 17	21 59	23 44	3 25	9 8	0 19	0 17
NEW MOON	..	22 7	37 A.M.	16	4 32	23 46	3 5	20 4	23 58	1 56	9 10	0 21	0 6
FIRST QUARTER	..	28 11	23 P.M.	21	5 11	25 12	2 55	18 10	0 12	0 27	9 12	0 22	North.
APOGEE	9 9	0 P.M.	21	5 11	25 12	2 55	18 10	0 12	0 27	9 12	0 22	North.
PERIGEE	22 6	0 P.M.	26	5 45	25 39	2 49	16 29	0 25	North.	9 14	16 59	0 24
													0 13
													1 31
													8 39
													8 44
													8 56
													9

MAY.=MAY-DAY GAMES.



Hark ! how Delight
Knocks with her silver wings at every sense,
For merry May her pastimes doth commence.
Hark ! how the peasant, with their music loud,
Rouse many an ancient ditty : while a crowd
Of snow-clad maidens, crowned with garlands gay,
Are tripping lightly round the Queen of May.—*Cleveland's May-Day.*

ONE of the oldest and most poetical of all our country amusements was the celebration of May-day. Mention is made of it by our earliest chroniclers and poets ; and so great is its antiquity, that the very origin is lost. Some believe that it is a custom which has descended down to us from the times of the old Druids ; others, that it was introduced into England by the Romans. But, as it is not mentioned by any historians who have recorded the manners of that period, I shall leave the matter to rest where it is ; for it is sufficient to know, that, four or five hundred years ago, May-day was a great holiday in England. Our forefathers were great lovers of nature, had more holidays than we have now, and had few of those in-door amusements which we possess ; and I have always considered May-day as one of those joyous celebrations with which they welcomed the return of spring—the season which brought back the birds, and flowers, and long green leaves, and threw open once more, as it were, the gates which led to their summer amusements, their joyous out-of-door pastimes, which, during the long, dark winter, had been closed. It seemed but natural that they should set

out on their merry pilgrimage to the woods, when the trees were again putting on their green garments ; when they could, on the darkening hedges, point out the very spots where the May blossoms would be hung ; when the daisies were once more strewn, like radiant pearls upon the grass ; and, in deep woodland nooks, the blue-bells lay sleeping like an azure cloud that had fallen from heaven ; and primroses and violets nestled side by side on the warm and sunny banks. It was then that they sallied forth, with axe in hand, to fell one of the tall, straight, tapering trees which grew in the forest, for they always brought home the most beautiful one they could meet with for their May-pole. Sometimes it was dragged from the woods by oxen garlanded with flowers, and accompanied by music ; while men and maidens, bearing green boughs, swelled the procession : and thus they brought home May. Spenser, who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, presents us with the following description of bringing home May, in his "Shepherd's Calendar." The scene here painted he had, no doubt, often witnessed :—

Young folk now flock in everywhere,
To gather May-bushes and smelling briers,
And home they hasten, the posts to dight,
And all the church pillars, ere daylight,
With hawthorn-buds, and sweet gleaming,
And garlands of roses, and sops of wine.
Even this morn'g—no longer ago,
I saw a shoal of shepherds out go,
With singing, and shouting, and jolly cheer;
Before them went a lusty labourer,
That unto many a horriple play'd
Whereto they danced, each one with his maid.

To see these folks making such joyance,
Made my heart after the pipe to dance.
Then to the green wood they speed them all
To fetch home May, with their musical:
And home they bring him in a royal
throne,
Crowned as king; and his queen, fair one,
Was Lady Flora, on whom did attend
A fair flock of fairies, and a fresh band
Of lovely nymphs. O that I were there,
To help the ladies their May-bush to bear.

On the village green, the tall May-pole was reared, amid merry shouts and loud huzzas, and the deep sounding of music; they built up arbours out of the branches they brought from the forest; they decorated the fronts of their houses with boughs; and on the tall May-pole hung many a garland of beautiful flowers. A bower was placed at the head of these arbours, which stood higher than the others. Within and without it was decorated with flowers, and set apart for the Queen of May, who was, generally, some peasant girl, selected by the unanimous consent of her companions. Sometimes the daughter of the Lord of the Manor presided as May Queen, and the whole family issued from their old ancestral hall to join in the May-day games. Then there were rustic youths dressed up in the costume of Robin Hood and his merry men, and Maid Marian; recalling the days of old, when these daring outlaws were the dread and pride of Sherwood Forest, plundering the rich to feed the poor; and chasing the dun deer through the thickets, in spite of Norman keepers and cruel forest-laws.

It was a season of rejoicing throughout the length and breadth of the land. Nor was London a bit behind in the celebration of this ancient festival. Even in the City, the tall May-pole was erected; and any one who had passed along Cornhill on May-day a few centuries ago, would have seen green arbours erected there, and huge oaken boughs hanging over the street, and the milk-maids, and all the merry old citizens, with their wives, daughters, maids, and apprentices, congregated about the May-pole, many of them dressed in old fanciful costumes, and giving themselves up to all the fun and jollity of May. But time has not preserved even the names of the mazy measures which they danced; and nearly all we know of the ancient pipe and tabor, the favourite music to which they timed their footsteps, is gathered from glancing at some scarce engraving. "Gone are the days of Gamelyn." "The May-pole," says an old writer, "was consecrated to the Goddess of Flowers, and the garlands were left upon it the whole year, without being disturbed by any one;" and I well remember passing through a village, at the end of April, in which a tall May-pole stood, only a few years ago, and seeing the last year's garlands hanging upon it, all wan and withered, and beaten by the storms of the past winter.

In those times, it seems to have been a custom to set out for the woods soon after midnight, so that by sunrise the May-pole was felled, and the branches gathered, and the procession ready to start, on its way home. In a book written during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, it is stated that sometimes as many as forty yoke of oxen, each having a sweet nosegay tied to the tip of his horns, were employed to draw home the May-pole; that they covered it all over, from top to bottom, with flowers and sweet herbs, which they bound round with strings; fastening, at equal distances, cross bars upon it, to the end of which they attached garlands; and thus decorated, it was hoisted up, amid the leaping and dancing and joyous shouts of the assembled multitude.

A sum of money was allowed in those days for the erection of green arbours around the May-pole. The King and Queen, or Lord and Lady of May, as they were called, were dressed out in scarfs and ribbons, and plumes of feathers, and made as fine as it was possible to array them.

Henry the Eighth, one morning in May, attended by several of his nobles, dressed in the quaint costume of Robin Hood and his merry men, suddenly entered the chamber where the Queen and her ladies were seated, much to the alarm of the latter, who were thus taken by surprise; for it appears that the King and his followers were armed with bows and arrows, and swords and bucklers, like the outlaws of old; and fine screaming there was, no doubt, amongst the Queen and her ladies, when their apartment was broken into by a troop of armed men; who, however, instead of carrying them off, like the ancient freebooters of the forest, and keeping them prisoners under the greenwood tree until they paid down a handsome ransom in gold, contented themselves by performing several wild woodland dances, then taking their departure.

The same Monarch, also, once rode out with his Queen and a whole concourse of nobles, one fine May morning, to the top of Shooters-hill, above Greenwich, and there they were received by a large troop of men, amounting to about two hundred, who were all dressed as foresters, in a costume of Kendal green, and headed by a captain, whom they called Robin Hood. These May-day foresters, dressed up for the occasion, amused their Royal and noble visitors by showing them their skill in archery; and when this was over each blew his bugle-horn, and conducted the King and his train into a wood under the brow of the hill, where a large arbour was erected of green boughs, consisting of a hall and two chambers, all decorated with flowers and sweet herbs; and here a mighty feast stood ready prepared, quite in keeping with the scene, consisting of venison, venison-pasties, and a copious supply of the blood-red wine, for such, the old ballads say, often formed the forest-banquet of Robin Hood and his merry men. A joyous May-day must that have been, presided over by the King and Queen of England; for Henry the Eighth was then a young man, greatly beloved by his people; and in the laughing merry Monarch who presided over that woodland repast, who drank deep healths to the Lord and Lady of May, and was the foremost to lead off the joyous dance in that summer hall, roofed over with green branches, few would have traced the future murderer, or read in the outlines of the then jocund Monarch the cruel beheader of so many of his wives. For the Royal tiger seemed then as harmless and playful as a lamb; and those who were around him but little dreamed that his memory ever after, throughout all time, would be preserved in one of the darkest stains that ever fell, and lay an eternal blot upon the pages of history.

On their return from this woodland banquet, they were met by two ladies, richly attired, who rode in a beautiful chariot, drawn by five horses; and on the back of each horse was also seated a lady, one of whom was called the Lady of Showers; another, the Lady of Green; the third, the Lady of Vegetation; the fourth, of Pleasure; and the fifth, of Sweet Odour. Of the two who occupied the chariot, one was called the Lady of May, and the other the Lady of Flowers; and they entertained the assembled company with songs, as they returned to Greenwich. Such was an English May-day in the reign of Henry VIII.

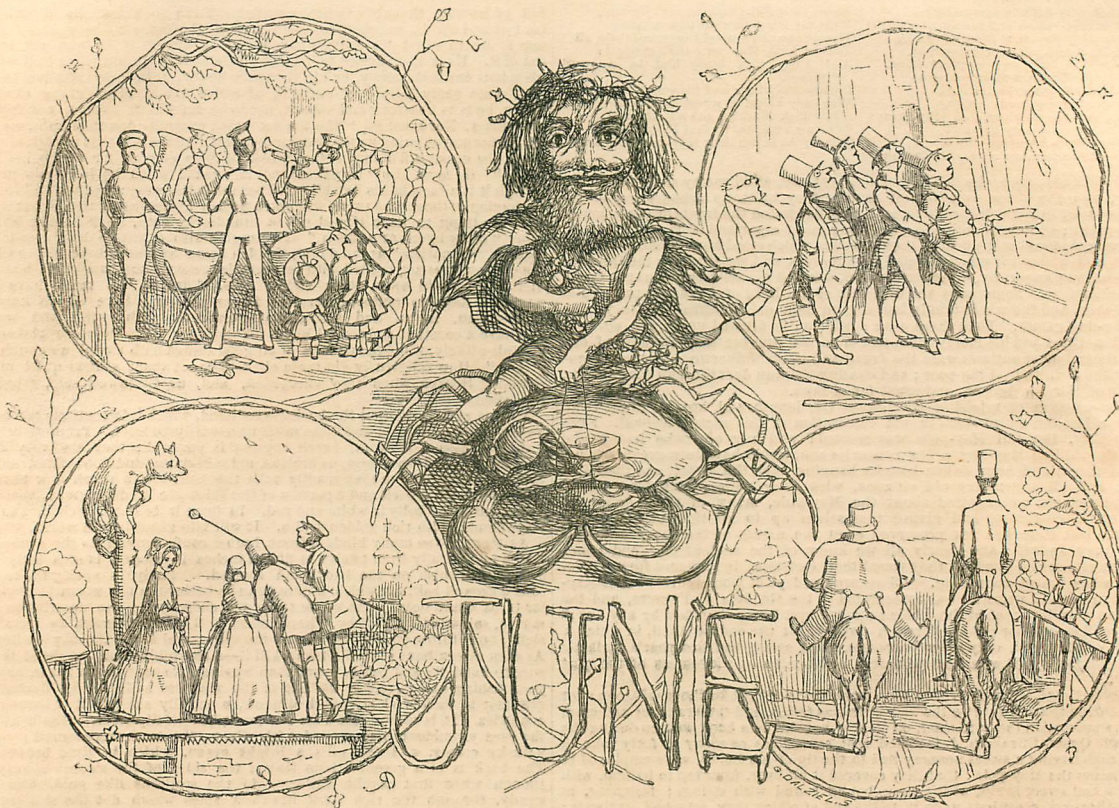
But few works are fraught with more amusement than our old English treatises on angling: there is such a simple cunningness about these honest old fishermen, that it is difficult to refrain from laughter while perusing the most serious passages. You almost fancy that many of these quaint writers must have had certain prayers, which they ever and anon repeated while following so peaceful an occupation—brief pious sentences, offered up in the full simplicity of the heart while dropping in the line, over a bite, or when the finny prey was landed. In one book the angler is recommended "to be

full of humble thoughts, when occasion offers; to kneel, lie down, or wet his feet and hands, as often as there is any advantage to be gained thereby;" nor is he to mind "a little dirty water or mud," if he can get anything out of it. He is also advised to render himself skilful in music, so that whenever his spirits are melancholy, or his thoughts heavy, "he may remove the same with some godly hymn or anthem, of which David gives many examples." Again, he is to be strong and valiant, not to be amazed at storms, nor frightened at labour. Nor must he, "like the fox which preyeth upon the lambs, employ all his labour and cunning on the smaller fry; but, like the lion that seizeth elephants, think the greatest fish that swims a reward little enough for the pains he endures." He must also "be patient, not feel vexed when he loses his prey, although it is almost in his hand." Neither must he swear: and we still retain the old saying, "those who swear will catch no fish;" besides it would hardly have been the thing to have ripped out a thundering oath, after having chanted some "godly hymn or anthem." The angler also ought to be "a scholar and a good grammarian," as, no doubt, the fish being an ancient people, and from the earliest ages acquainted with respectable society, must have felt bad grammar grate again upon their ruddy gills. Further, he must have sweetness of speech, to entice others to follow his art; have also a knowledge of the sun, moon, and stars; be conversant with wind and weather; and have a constant and settled belief that where "the waters are pleasant and anything likely, there the Creator of all good things hath stored up much of his plenty." How religiously did these old rascals set about a little quiet murder! thanking Heaven when they succeeded, and, as Cromwell said, "had good execution."

But we must not forget the business on hand, which is to continue our remarks on angling from April; and these must necessarily be brief. From early spring, until the close of autumn, perch angling is pursued; they are very fond of lingering in shadowy places, as bridges, old mill-dams, and flood-gates, and such like quiet spots, where they readily take the bait. The perch is a beautifully marked fish; the back and a portion of the sides are of dark green, varied with black, while the belly is white and red. In form it is deep, arched, and has a large mouth, with rich golden irides. It will bite greedily at a worm.

As there are so many kinds of trout, I must confine myself to the common one, which is generally from twelve to fifteen inches in length, is of a dirty yellow colour, brownish on the back, and spotted. Early in spring the trout will take a ground bait, for which nothing can be better than a worm. Fly-fishing for trout would occupy the whole space we dedicate to the description of the month, so we must pass it by. Remember, in fishing for trout, to keep out of sight; once throw your shadow upon the water, and away the shy visitor goes. As soon as you have landed a trout, kill it—a sharp blow on the head is pretty sure to finish it; and this is better than leaving it to pant on the grass, or gasp in your fishing basket, to say nothing of the richness added to its flavour. The grayling is fond of clear, rapid streams, especially such as flow through hilly countries. It is rather less than the trout, beautifully formed; the head small; the eyes prominent, and circled with silver; the teeth very small; the head a dusky colour, and the gills a bright green, which in time become dark. The back is of a greenish blue tinge; the sides of the richest silvery grey, though when first caught glittering in the sunlight like gold, and almost gaudy, through the rich dark irregular spots which dot the shifting silver. It is a rapid swimmer, and is lost to the eye in a moment. When full-grown, it is about fifteen or sixteen inches in length; and although taken all the year round, is not considered in season until September, and from then to February or the middle of spring. At the latter season, they will take almost any bait used in bottom fishing, such as worms, gentles, grubs; nor are they at all particular, if they have had a narrow escape from the hook, of attacking the bait again, even with a torn jaw. The tackle ought to be fine. The flesh is very white, and the flavour highly prized. "No life," says Walton, "is so happy and so pleasant as the life of a well-governed angler: for when the lawyer is swallowed up with business, and the statesman is preventing or contriving plots, then we sit on cowslip banks, hear the birds sing, and possess ourselves in as much quietness as the silent silver streams which we see glide so smoothly by us."





M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.				MOON.				DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.				HIGH WATER		Day of the Year.	
			SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.				AT LONDON BRIDGE.			
			Rises	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon	Afternoon	Height above horizon	Sets	Before Sunrise.	O'Clock.	After Sunset.	Morning.	Afternoon		
D	D		H. M.	M. S.	Deg.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Deg.	H. M.	1h. 2h. 3h.	Moon's Age.	O'Clock.	9h. 10h. 11h.	H. M.	H. M.		
1	F	<i>Nicomede</i>	3 51	2 31	60	8 4	3 25	9 30	2	2 9			10			10 50	11 20	152
2	S	Antares souths at 11h. 31m. P.M.	3 50	2 22	60	8 5	4 28	9 47	27	2 32			11			11 55	No Tide.	153
3	M	TRIN. SUNDAY	3 50	2 13	60	8 6	5 33	10 32	24	2 57			12			0 15	0 40	154
4	M	Spica Virginis souths at 8h. 24m. P.M.	3 49	2 3	61	8 7	6 22	11 17	21	3 25			13			1 2	1 25	155
5	Tu	<i>St. Boniface</i>	3 49	1 53	61	8 8	7 31	Morning.	19	3 57			14			1 45	2 0	156
6	W	Eta Bootis souths at 8h. 46m. P.M.	3 48	1 42	61	8 9	8 25	0 4	18	4 34			15			2 20	2 40	157
7	Th	<i>Corpus Christi</i>	3 47	1 31	61	8 10	9 16	0 51	18	5 16			16			2 55	3 10	158
8	F	Arcturus souths at 8h. 59m. P.M.	3 47	1 20	61	8 11	9 59	1 39	19	6 3			17			3 30	3 45	159
9	S	Epsilon Bootis souths at 9h. 25m. P.M.	3 46	1 9	61	8 12	10 38	2 26	21	6 56			18			4 0	4 20	160
10	S	1st S. aft. TRIN.	3 46	0 57	61	8 12	11 11	3 14	23	7 55			19			4 35	4 55	161
11	M	<i>St. Barnabas</i>	3 45	0 45	61	8 13	11 40	4 1	26	8 57			20			5 10	5 30	162
12	Tu	Trin. Term ends	3 45	0 33	61	8 14	Morning	4 48	30	10 4			21			5 50	6 10	163
13	W	Beta Libræ souths at 9h. 39m. P.M.	3 45	0 21	61	8 15	0 8	5 35	34	11 12			22			6 40	7 0	164
14	Th	Battle of Sara- gossa, 1809	3 45	0 8	61	8 16	0 33	6 22	39	Afternoon			23			7 30	8 0	165
15	F	Alpha Serpentis souths at 9h. 59m. P.M.	3 44	After 12 o'clock.	61	8 16	0 57	7 11	44	1 36			24			8 30	9 10	166
16	S	Antares souths at 10h. 39m. P.M.	3 44	0 17	62	8 16	1 27	8 2	48	2 52			25			9 40	10 15	167
17	S	2ND S. aft. TRIN.	3 44	0 30	62	8 16	1 55	8 56	52	4 10			26			10 45	11 15	168
18	M	<i>B. Waterloo, 1815</i>	3 44	0 43	62	8 17	2 30	9 53	55	5 29			27			11 45	No Tide.	169
19	Tu	Alpha Herculis souths at 11h. 16m. P.M.	3 44	0 56	62	8 18	3 10	10 53	56	6 45			28			0 15	0 45	170
20	W	Acces. Queen Vic.	3 44	1 9	62	8 18	3 59	11 55	—	7 55			29			1 10	1 37	171
21	Th	Proclamation	3 44	1 22	62	8 18	4 58	Afternoon	56	8 53			30			2 2	2 30	172
22	F	Civil war in Paris, and Paris in a state of siege, 1848	3 45	1 35	62	8 19	6 8	2 0	55	9 45			1			2 55	3 22	173
23	S		3 45	1 48	62	8 19	7 20	2 58	52	10 25			2			3 45	4 10	174
24	S	3RD S. aft. TRIN.	3 45	2 1	62	8 19	8 34	3 52	49	10 59			3			4 35	5 0	175
25	M	Alpha Ophiuchi souths at 11h. 11m. P.M.	3 46	2 14	62	8 18	9 48	4 43	45	11 26			4			5 20	5 50	176
26	Tu	Geo. IV. d., 1830	3 46	2 27	62	8 18	10 58	5 31	40	11 51			5			6 10	6 35	177
27	W	Gamma Draconis souths at 11h. 29m. P.M.	3 46	2 39	61	8 18	Afternoon	6 17	36	Morning.			6			7 3	7 30	178
28	Th	<i>Q. Vic. cro. 1838</i>	3 47	2 52	61	8 18	1 15	7 132	0	14			7			8 0	8 30	179
29	F	<i>St. Peter's Day</i>	3 48	3 4	61	8 18	2 10	7 45	28	0 38			8			9 0	9 35	180
30	S	Alpha Lyre souths at 11h. 55m. P.M.	3 49	3 16	61	8 18	3 24	8 30	25	1 2			9			10 5	10 30	181

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

JUNE.

THE SUN is in the sign Gemini till the 21st, on which day, at 2h. 8m. P.M., he enters the sign Cancer (the Crab), and Summer commences. On the 1st day he is 96,878,000 miles from the Earth. He rises on the 1st, at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of N.E. by N.; on the 13th, at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; on the 22nd at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; and on the 31st, at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of the same point of the horizon. He sets, on the same days, at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$; at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$; at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of N.W. by N. points of the horizon. His times of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

THE MOON is in the constellation Virgo on the 1st and 2nd; in Libra, on the 3rd and 4th; in Ophiuchus, on the 5th and 6th; skirting both Aquila and Sagittarius, from the 7th to the 9th; in Capricornus, on the 10th; in Aquarius, on the 11th and 12th; in Pisces, on the 13th and 14th; in Cetus and Pisces alternately, till the 17th; in Taurus, from the 18th to the 20th; in Gemini, on the 21st and 22nd; in Cancer, on the 23rd; in Leo, from the 24th to the 26th; in Virgo, till the 29th; and in Libra, on the 30th.

She rises before the Sun sets, till the 5th; during the night, till the 15th; and after the Sun rises, till the 20th. She sets before the sun rises, till the 4th; during the day, till the 20th; and after sunset, from the 21st. For the actual time, see the opposite page. She is on the Equator on the 14th and on the 27th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

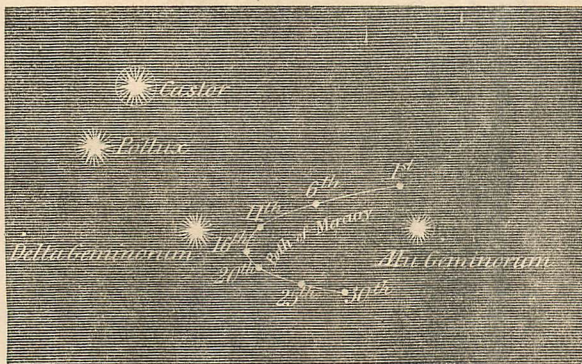
She is near Saturn on the 14th; Mars and Uranus, on the 15th; Venus, on the 17th; Mercury, on the 21st; and Jupiter, on the 24th.

She is full on the 5th, and new on the 20th; but without an Eclipse at both times.

MERCURY is in the constellation Gemini throughout the month.

He is an evening star till the 25th; and sets on the 1st, at 2h. 5m.; on the 5th, at 1h. 58m.; on the 10th, at 1h. 39m.; on the 15th, at 1h. 12m.; on the 20th, at 40m.; and on the 25th, at 5m. after the sun sets. He is very favourably situated for observation at the beginning of this month. He sets on the 1st, at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of N.W. by N.; on the 18th, at N.W. by N.; and on the last day, at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of W.N.W. He is moving eastward among the stars from the 1st to the 15th; he is stationary on the 16th and 17th; and is moving westward from the 18th to the 30th. He is near the Moon on the 21st. On the 3rd he is at his greatest east elongation; and on the 30th is in inferior conjunction with the Sun. His motion among the stars, and his relative position to the principal stars near him, are shown in the annexed cut.

PATH OF MERCURY AMONG THE STARS, DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

VENUS is in the constellation Aries till the 21st; and in that of Taurus from the 22nd.

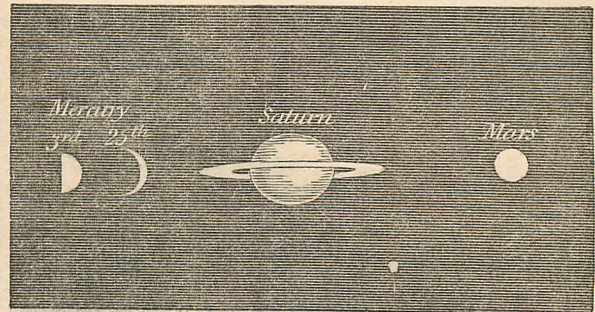
She is a morning star throughout the month; and rises on the 1st, at 2h. 44m. A.M.; on the 17th, at 2h. 3m. A.M.; and on the 30th, at 1h. 34m. A.M.; at the E. N.E. on the 9th; and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of E.N.E. on the 30th. She is stationary among the stars on the 1st and 2nd; and is moving eastward among them from the 3rd to the 30th. She is near the Moon on the 17th; is at the greatest brilliancy on the 18th; and in aphelion on the 30th.

MARS is in the constellation Cetus till the 5th; in that of Pisces, from the 6th to the 22nd; in Cetus again, till the 28th; and in Aries, from the 29th.

He is a morning star; and rises on the 1st, at 1h. 44m. A.M.; at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of E.; on the 16th, at 1h. 4m. A.M., at E. by N.; and on the 30th, at 0h. 28m. A.M., at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ N.

of E. by N. His times of southing are given below; and he sets at about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 15th, at midnight, and Uranus on the 21st.

TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE OF THE PLANETS, IN JUNE, 1849.



Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo throughout the month.

He is an evening star; rises between 7h. and 9h. A.M.; souths at an altitude of 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 1st, decreasing to 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the last day; and sets on the 1st, at 0h. 9m. A.M., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of W.N.W.; and on the last day, at 10h. 26m. A.M., at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of W.N.W. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 24th.

On looking at Jupiter through the telescope, four little stars are also seen, which follow him in his orbit as the Moon follows the Earth. They are distinguished from one another by the denomination of *first*, *second*, *third*, and *fourth*, according to their relative distances from the planet; the *first* being that which is the nearest to him; and the *fourth* being that which is the most distant. Their apparent motion is like that of a pendulum, passing from their greatest elongation on one side, to their greatest elongation on the other. As these satellites move round Jupiter, Eclipses of them frequently happen, particularly of the 1st and 2nd, more rarely of the 3rd, and occasionally only of the 4th, on account of its distance from the planet causing it, sometimes, to pass above or below the shadow. Their relative frequency will be seen at the bottom of every page, as the times of their occurrence are noticed in every month. They are easily seen through a telescope, when Jupiter is at a sufficient distance from the Sun; but the same satellite disappears and re-appears at different distances from the planet, which distance depends on the relative situations of the Sun, Jupiter, and the Earth; but they always happen on that side of Jupiter where the shadow of the planet is known to be. Whilst Jupiter is passing from his conjunction to his opposition to the Sun, the immersions of the 1st and 2nd satellites only are visible; and whilst he passes from his opposition to his conjunction, the emersions only are visible. Sometimes the 3rd and 4th disappear, and then re-appear on the same side of the planet; and the time elapsed between these phenomena is exactly that which it is known the satellite would be in passing a distance equal to the planet's shadow. At the time of opposition, the Planet, the Earth, and the Sun are in the same straight line, and therefore the shadow of Jupiter is in the same line, and the Eclipses take place when the satellites are close to the planet. These circumstances will be best understood by reference to the diagram in the month of February.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—An Emission of the 2nd alone is visible. It appears at about two-thirds of the diameter of the Planet, to the right as seen through a non-inverting telescope, and to the left as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month.

He is a morning star; and rises on the 1st, at 1h. 41m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 0h. 48m. A.M.; and on the 30th, at 1h. 50m. P.M., at a little N. of E. on every day. He moves very slowly eastward among the stars till the 15th, and is stationary among them during the remainder of the month. He is near the Moon on the 14th and 15th.

URANUS rises about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. of E. by N.; on the 1st, at 2h. 3m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 0h. 11m. A.M. He is moving slowly eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 16th, and Mars on the 21st.

ON PLANETARY PHENOMENA.

The annual revolution of the Earth in its orbit about the Sun produces a change in the aspect of the heavens from time to time. By a little attention, it will be seen, that the stars which are situated in the east during the evening, appear to be higher each successive evening, as viewed at the same time. This

(Continued in July.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.		OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of		Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Afternoon	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	1st. Sat.	2nd. Sat.					
							Emersion.					
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.		h ¹ Aquarii	6	{	D. H. M.	Bright
6	1 40	10 7	8 3	4 37	7 47	10 10 32 P.M.						
11	1 41	9 49	7 57	4 21	7 29							
16	1 34	9 34	7 51	4 4	7 10							
21	1 19	9 22	7 45	3 48	6 52							
26	0 56	9 13	7 39	3 31	6 33			Nu Piscium	5	{	16 3 48 A.M.	Bright
30	0 27	9 5	7 32	3 15	6 14								33 Virginis	6	{	16 4 47 A.M.	Dark
30	At noon.	9 1	7 27	3 2	5 59						27 10 0 P.M.	Dark
											27 10 45 P.M.		Bright

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.															
Days of the Month	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.				
	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.			
FULL MOON	5d. 10h. 27m. P.M.	1	6h. 19m	25° 11'	2h. 46m	15° 0'	0h. 42m	2° 47'	9h. 18m	16° 44'	0h. 26m	0° 23'	1h. 33m	9° 7'
LAST QUARTER	..	13 10 24 P.M.	6	6 40	24 14	2 48	14 15	0 56	4 13	9 20	16 30	0 27	0 30	1 34	9 11
NEW MOON	20 2 19 P.M.	11	6 53	22 58	2 53	13 56	1 9	5 38	9 23	16 16	0 28	0 37	1 35	9 15
FIRST QUARTER	..	27 10 44 A.M.	16	6 58	21 35	3 0	13 59	1 23	7 2	9 27	16 1	0 30	0 42	1 35	9 19
APOGEE	6 3 0 A.M.	21	6 54	20 17	3 11	14 19	1 37	8 22	9 30	15 44	0 30	0 47	1 36	9 23
PERIGEE	20 5 0 A.M.	26	6 45	19 15	3 23	14 53	1 50	9 41	9 33	15 27	0 31	0 51	1 37	9 26

JUNE.-WHITSUNTIDE PROCESSIONS.



When the merry bells ring round,
And the jocund rebecks sound,
To many a youth and many a maid
Dancing in the chequer'd shade,
And young and old come forth to play
On a sunshine holiday —MILTON.

WHETHER Whitsuntide falls in May or June, it is always a season of great festivity; and, since so many old customs are dying away, we may consider it our greatest English holiday. In the country, nearly every club has its procession and feast at Whitsuntide; and almost every village and town is sounding with music; and in some large places half a dozen clubs may be seen marching to church, each with its band and banners, and every member in his holiday attire. We, who are dabblers in old black-letter lore, look upon these benevolent and useful institutions with great interest, knowing that such clubs or guilds, existed in England a thousand years ago—that the Saxons had their sick and burial societies, and that every brother who did not attend a funeral was then fined as now. According to these old Saxon laws, when a member died he was to be buried wherever he had desired; and, if any brother neglected to attend, he was fined a measure of honey: the club was to furnish half the refreshments consumed at the funeral, and each member was to pay twopence—a large sum, considering the value of money in those days, when a sheep could be purchased for a shilling, an ox for six, and four hens for sixpence. It is this very antiquity which renders these benefit societies so interesting in our eyes;

and as we know that they had their merry meetings as well as their "funeral marches," we never look upon them as they go "sounding through the town," without thinking that, above a thousand years ago, similar processions passed along the ancient streets of Saxon England.

Oh! what a jingling of bells is there on the morning of Whit-Monday. What a running to and fro from house to house—for the women have in many places their clubs as well as the men, and they are probably all going in procession to the same church. Nanny runs in to ask Betty how she looks in this or that; if her new gown "sits" nicely, or she should trim her cap with blue or pink; for it must be understood that no bonnets are allowed in the procession; if it rains, umbrellas may be carried. We shall commence with the ladies first. White dresses are, of course, prevalent, though they are agreeably relieved here and there with a gown or two of gaudy colours. The ladies who hold office walk behind the band, each carrying a neat white wand, adorned with ribbons and flowers; every fair member also bears a beautiful posy; you almost wonder where so many flowers could be gathered; but what they carry with them is nothing compared to the quantity which decorate the club-room in which they

will take tea in the afternoon. Gravely, stately, and good-humouredly do they proceed along, the single ones looking down as if ashamed, and seldom venturing to raise their eyes if passing by a house they are in the habit of visiting. Not so with the married women. They are on the look-out to acknowledge everybody they know; and at every recognition there is such a waving of handkerchiefs that you might almost fancy they were about to proceed on a very long journey, and were bidding farewell to their acquaintance. But the most amusing part is the children. They are stationed on every step or little eminence, the bigger brother or sister holding a lesser one in arms, and looking out eagerly for mother. The mother is all to them, and she also is watching anxiously. At last you hear the little voices exclaim, "Here she comes!" "There she is!" "That's her!" and she is sure to rush out of the ranks to give them something out of her pocket; and no end of kisses, with numberless admonitions to take care of themselves, and so on. And many a turn of the head will she give before she is out of sight. Among such processions as these we have seen faces and forms that would have arrested the eyes of both painter and sculptor, and shown them that the beautiful belongs not alone to either antiquity or Greece. We have also seen the hair arranged in such a chaste style, and so gracefully adorned with natural flowers, that many a haughty beirress would have been proud to have risen with her ringlets so arranged from the hands of a fashionable tiring-woman.

Their overpowering presence made you feel
It would not be idolatry to kneel.

But, bang, bang! tira, tira! here they come—the "United Brothers." The blacksmith who beats the big drum will assuredly drive the ends in; he wields the drumsticks as if he had got a sledge-hammer in each hand, and the anvil before him. Oh! what a banner—it takes four men to support it, and two others to keep it steady by holding the tasselled strings. It was painted by Paul, the house-painter; and he has been much prouder ever since he did it. It would hardly be admissible into the British Institution—but let that pass; were any one to venture to criticise the performance, he would be indignantly told that it cost above twenty pounds. Although the tailor is a little out of both time and tune, yet he blows lustily at the clarionet; and the young butcher is not to be found fault with, considering he has only practised on the bugle for about twelve months. What a jolly fellow that is who shakes the cymbals—his very eyes laugh again; what a clashing he makes; he cares nothing about time; "Make yourself heard, neighbour," is his answer. You can tell from his looks that he has already been busy with the ale-cup, and that he is not the only one. And those are the stewards. "Deary me!" exclaim the women, "who ever would think that was Trippet, the tripe-seller; or the other, Johnny Lee, who goes round repairing umbrellas?" but they are though; and are resolved to let you see what they can do when they choose: a nod from either of them is something to be thought of to-day, I can tell you; for they are the stewards, and were elected for the first time at the last meeting. Next club-feast-day two others will march, with the same staidness, in their places. When Trippet and Lee have served their twelvemonth, should they live fifty years after, everything they can remember will be recalled either as having transpired so many years before or after they were the stewards.

Bang, bang! All the windows are up; the whole street is crowded; women with children in their arms, and boys and girls, close in and follow the procession: the men walk two and two—there is about a yard's space between each couple. What a length the procession reaches! There are at least one hundred members "strong;" and the latter word is pronounced with something like an emphasis. True enough, they march oddly: a few are very careful, but these, no doubt, are younger members; the old United Brothers seem to jog along "cheek by jowl!" anyhow as they can—they look as if they were used to it; they wear their honours without blushing, some, you see, with a flower held between the lips. This is very common in the country; every one has a posy in the button-hole of his coat, for that is in accordance with club orders. Now they near the church; they will never be able to get that large banner within the porch—but they have: it required great care; and there will be a good deal of talk about after how the wind caught it at this corner, and how they staggered at that, and you would go away with an idea that a man must be to the "manner born" before he is ever able to bear a banner.

The clergyman invariably preaches a sermon, in which the words unity, brotherhood, good-fellowship, charity, duty, &c., occur a great many times. He also dines with the club, a sure guarantee that for some time after the cloth is removed good order will be maintained. There are two old club-mates who have sat together at the dinner for years, and have always introduced the same argument. One maintains that "Whatever is Right;" the other takes the opposite side, and argues that, if it is so, "then Murder is Right." They always have a little knot of listeners, and are thought rather clever. The clergyman has, on one or two occasions, entered the field; but now he seems to be weary of it, and if appealed to admits "that much may be said on both sides." The dinner we pass over; the health of the retiring stewards is of course drunk, then Trippet and Lee have to say a few words; and if it is late in the evening a few of the brothers are sure to get rather boisterous, and to cry out "Go it Lee!" or Trippet. Some of their wives also occasionally drop in at the close of the day.

Summer has now thrown open her green doors; the whole landscape is richly hung with the most beautiful foliage; the fields are ankle deep in flowers, and the earth will never look more lovely than now. Nature everywhere holds high jubilee; bird and bee and brook have each found a voice, and all day long are calling to and answering each other. Beautiful are the mornings and evenings of June, when the dew hangs upon the blossoms, and all that sweet aroma, which the hot sun will exhale, floats about the earth. Thomson, in his "Castle of Indolence," has beautifully described the luxury of green fields at this season:—

Was nought around but images of rest—
Sleep-soothing groves, and quiet lawns between,
And flowery beds that slumberous influence cast,
From poppies breathed; and beds of pleasant green,
Where never yet was creeping creature seen.
Meantime unnumber'd glittering streamlets play'd,
And hurried everywhere their waters sheen,
That as they bicker'd through the sunny glade,
Though restless, still themselves a lulling murmur made.

Join'd to the prattle of the purling rills,
Were heard the lowing herds along the vale,
And flocks loud-bleating from the distant hills,
And vacant shepherds piping in the dale;
And now and then sweet Philomel would wall,
Or stock-doves plain amid the forest deep,
That drowsy rustled to the sighing gale;
And still a coil the grasshopper did keep;
Yet all these mingled sounds inclined to sleep.

A wanderer in the country not only finds pleasure in the beauties of Nature, but feels a delight in witnessing the enjoyment of others, and in none more than seeing the children of the poor—those who have about them the stamp of City-courts and crowded alleys—running for once free and happy along the

green lanes and over the pleasant field-paths. It makes a kind-hearted man sigh to think how those little creatures, ordained naturally to be happy, are shut up in stifling rooms, or left to wander at will through the hot and suffocating streets, in too many instances without any one to care either for their moral or bodily wants. Such have we sometimes had around us for the distance of a mile or two. They were rummaging every bank, peeping into every hedge, and plucking every flower they came near; they seemed to run over as much ground as a dog: they were never still—but here, there, and everywhere; ever discovering some object, new and wonderful to them, such as they had never before beheld in their City alleys; a molehill prettily marked, or a little clump of moss, were marvels in their eyes. Then, what a long consultation would there be at the door of some road-side ale-house. They perhaps mustered three or four pence amongst the whole half-dozen; the hungriest were advocates for all penny-loaves—the extravagant for a pennyworth of cheese. What a half-bashful joy played about their little dirty faces, if any good-natured pedestrian stepped in, and, by contributing a few halfpence, settled the dispute, and for once allowed them to revel in (to them) a rich banquet of bread and cheese. City-bred although they were, there would be a look of mingled gratitude and delight, which proclaimed, in unmistakable though silent language, that those young hearts were not yet wholly corrupted, but that there lay the soil which might be made either to bear poisonous weeds or goodly fruit. In a City street their very language might perhaps shock the stranger; but here they are often met with in their best and gentlest moods. We have somewhere said—though we cannot now lay our hands upon the passage—that God still adorns the earth with trees and flowers as beautiful as ever waved in Eden, as if to prove to man, that however low he may have fallen, the lovely objects of field and wood have not degenerated; but that the rose is still as sweet, and the leaves as beautiful and green, as they were before man offended his Maker. All remains as lovely as when first fashioned by the great Creator. Nothing ever pained us more than the great sweeping Enclosure Act. It seemed as if the last link was severed that united man to the wonderful works of God—that he was no longer to "consider the tilles of the field how they grow."

There is a rural scene which somehow seems to linger upon our memory more than any other. We can recall it any time, from the trees that overhang the foot-path and throw their shadows into the water, to the very bend the river makes as it goes broadening out between the meadows, or circles like a belt of silver around the foot of the hills, until it diminishes like a bright cloud in the distance. We have often described it as seen in the early morning, or in the golden noon of day, and when the blue twilight has thrown over it a shadowy veil. Here sheep bleat, and jingle their musical bells as they crop the wild thyme from the bee-haunted hillocks, or browse amongst the luxuriant clover in the neighbouring pastures; knee-deep the plump-sided oxen graze, or, chewing the cud, lie buried among the flowers of summer. The heavy waggon goes slowly rumbling up the steep acclivity, on the summit of which stands the old weather-beaten mill, through whose rent sails we can see patches of the bright sky behind. On every hand figures are crossing the landscape. We see the angler with his wicker basket borne on the end of his folded rod, which rests upon his shoulder. We see figures moving every way.

They come from still green nooks—woods old and hoary,
The silent work of many a summer night,
Ere those tall trees attain'd their giant glory,
Or their proud tops did climb that cloudy height.
They come from spot which the grey hawthorns dignify,
Where stream-kiss'd willows make a silvery shiver.

Who can ever fully express the pleasures of a country life? says an old author, with the various delights of fishing, hunting, and fowling, with guns, greyhounds, spaniels, and several sorts of nets. What refreshment it is to behold the green shades—the beauty and majesty of the tall and ancient groves: to be skilled in the planting and training of orchards, flowers, and pot-herbs; to temper and allay these harmless employments with some innocent and merry song; to ascend sometimes to the fresh and healthful hills; to descend into the bosom of the valleys, and the fragrant dewy meadows; to hear the music of birds, the murmur of bees, the falling of springs, and the pleasant discourses of the old ploughman. These are the blessings which only a countryman is ordained to, and are in vain wished for by the denizens of smoky cities; they are, indeed the "sights and sounds that give delight, but hurt not."





M D	W D	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.					HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.					AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
			Rises.	After 12 o'clock.		Height above horizon	Sets.	Rises.	After- noon.		Height above horizon	Sets.	O'Clock. 1h. 2h. 3h.			Moon's Age.	After Sunset. O'Clock. 9h. 10h. 11h.		Morning. Afternoon			
1	S	4TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 49	3 27	61 3/4	8 17	4 26	9 15	23 1/4	1 29												
2	M	Visit. of V. M.	3 49	3 39	61 1/2	8 17	5 24	10 1	20 3/4	1 58												
3	Tu	Dog Days begin	3 50	3 50	61 1/2	8 16	6 20	10 48	19	2 34												
4	W	Trans. St. Martin	3 51	4 0	61 1/2	8 16	7 12	11 36	18 1/2	3 14												
5	Th	Arcturus souths 7h. 14m. P.M. [Camb. Term ends]	3 52	4 11	61 1/4	8 16	7 58	Morning	19	4 0												
6	F	Old Midsum. D.	3 53	4 21	61 1/4	8 15	8 39	0 24	20 1/4	4 52												
7	S	Ox. Term ends	3 54	4 31	61	8 15	9 14	1 12	22 1/2	5 49												
8	S	5TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 55	4 40	61	8 14	9 46	1 59	25 1/2	6 50												
9	M	Bourbons r. 1815	3 56	4 49	61	8 14	10 13	2 47	29	7 56												
10	Tu	Epsilon Bootis souths 7h. 24m. P.M.	3 57	4 58	60 3/4	8 13	10 39	3 33	33	9 2												
11	W	Old St. Peter	3 58	5 6	60 3/4	8 13	11 4	4 20	37 1/2	10 12												
12	Th	Beta Libræ souths 7h. 45m. P.M.	3 59	5 14	60 1/4	8 12	11 29	5 7	42	11 22												
13	F	Alpha Serpentis souths 8h. 12m. P.M.	4 0	5 22	60 1/4	8 11	11 56	5 56	46 1/4	Afternoon												
14	S	[St. Swithin]	4 1	5 28	60 1/4	8 10	Morning	6 46	50 1/4	1 50												
15	S	6TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 2	5 35	60	8 9	0 27	7 40	53 1/4	3 5												
16	M	The Hegira, or flight of Mahomet, A.D. 622	4 3	5 41	60	8 8	1 4	8 36	56	4 21												
17	Tu	[born, 1822]	4 4	5 46	59 3/4	8 7	1 47	9 36	56 3/4	5 32												
18	W	Prs. Aug. Camb.	4 5	5 51	59 1/2	8 6	2 40	10 38	56 1/4	6 37												
19	Th	Prs. Aug. Camb.	4 6	5 56	59 1/2	8 5	3 43	11 40	—	7 31												
20	F	St. Margaret	4 8	6 0	59 1/4	8 4	4 43	Afternoon	54 1/4	8 16												
21	S	Antares souths 8h. 21m. P.M.	4 9	6 3	59	8 3	6 9	1 38	51	8 55												
22	S	7TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 10	6 6	58 3/4	8 2	7 24	2 32	47	9 26												
23	M	[Mary Magdal.	4 11	6 8	58 1/2	8 0	8 39	3 23	42 3/4	9 53												
24	Tu	Beta Lyre souths 10h. 34m. P.M.	4 12	6 10	58 1/2	7 58	9 52	4 11	38 1/2	10 20												
25	W	St. James	4 14	6 11	58 1/4	7 56	10 51	4 57	34	10 42												
26	Th	St. Anne	4 15	6 11	58 1/4	7 54	Afternoon	5 42	30	11 6												
27	F	Revolution in Pa- ris, 1830, lasted three days.	4 17	6 11	57 3/4	7 53	1 12	6 26	26 1/2	11 32												
28	S	8TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 19	6 10	57 1/2	7 51	2 16	7 12	23 1/2	Morning												
29	M	Alpha Aquilæ souths 11h 9m. P.M.	4 21	6 9	57 1/4	7 50	3 15	7 57	21	0 1												
30	Tu	Alpha Lyre souths 9h. 54m. P.M.	4 23	6 7	57 1/4	7 49	4 13	8 44	19 1/2	0 34												
31	W		4 24	6 4	56 3/4	7 47	5 6	9 31	18 1/2	1 12												

JULY.—SHEEP-SHEARING FEAST.



Since finish'd our shearing, in feasting we're met,
And our master before us this plenty has set;
While gaily and gladsome we holiday keep,
Let us give the praise due to the fleece and the sheep.—*Old Song.*

SHEEP-SHEARING Feast is one amongst the oldest of our English holidays; and appears to have ranked with the earliest celebrations of the olden times. It is frequently alluded to in the Bible, where we meet with the names of those who celebrated it; and we even find enumerated the many good things which were consumed at the feast. It is pleasant to dwell upon such ancient customs, to recal scenes which were in existence thousands of years ago, long before the shepherds assembled in the fields of Bethlehem, or the "star had arisen in the east" that illuminated a dark and benighted world. It was so natural, when mankind had gathered in the wool which was to clothe them, and the corn which was their principal food, to return thanks to the Giver of all good, and to be joyful and merry on such occasions. It is a pleasure to know, that in summer time there was the same bleating of sheep and lambs beside the brooks in the pleasant vallies of Palestine, as there is now in our own green English pastures; and that, ages ago, the shepherds washed their flocks in the hallowed waters of Jordan.

There is nothing more lively than Sheep-Shearing, where all the idlers in the village are assembled: where the crowded pens are filled with bleating sheep; while the shearers are bending as earnestly over their work as if it were a matter of life and death, though the lookers-on only consider it as a pleasant

amusement. There is, also, something pleasing in the sound, as they every now and then pause to whet or sharpen their shears—in the very attitude of the clipped sheep as they turn away, as if they scarcely knew themselves, or their companions, for they all seem lost together; so strange do they appear in their ridgy jackets; for wherever the edge of the shears has clipped there is a mark which goes round and round, as if the sheep were bandaged in fine wool. Then there is something pleasing in the scenery amid which this labour takes place, in the large old barn in the background with its opening door, or the farm-yard surrounded with stacks, sheds, and out-houses, and carts, painted blue or red, on the shafts of which the fowls are perched. But the most cheering sight of all to the "clippers," for such are the sheep-shearers called, is the preparation under the oak before the farm-house door, or within the barn itself, for the feast; for they not only look forward to a merry time, but there is the consciousness that their labour is brought to a close; and when the last sheep is sheared, then comes the loud huzza! for no end of good things are inviting them.

The great copper is filled with firmity, made of boiled wheat, which, when cold, cuts like jelly; currants, raisins, spices of every kind; sugar shot in in pounds, which, when boiled enough, is emptied out into basins and pans, and

cooled with new milk. Round this delicious mess assemble the young—three or four, with huge wooden spoons, eating out of one pancheon, or large earthenware vessel, about two feet wide. Sometimes, they quarrel, like pigs around a trough; one has thrown a spoonful of fury into the others' face; others have set off, and gone into the orchard to swing. The great kitchen is a very Babel of sounds.

In my "Pictures of Country Life," I have drawn the following picture of a Sheep-Shearing Feast, which is sometimes held in the barn: the immense door is turned into a table, and almost bends beneath its load of provisions. We talk of roast beef; taste what is set before them! Small of that chine: what a nosegay! It is stuffed with all kinds of savoury herbs; it tastes like duck, goose, pork, veal, as if all good things were rolled into it, and made one. It would make a sick man well only to smell of it. What slices! What appetites! What horns of brown ale they empty! A waiter in a London eating-house would run away horror-stricken, and proclaim a coming famine throughout the land. They eat their peas by spoonfuls: a new potato vanishes at every mouthful; dishes are full and emptied ere you can turn your head. That was a whole ham ten minutes ago, now you behold only the bone. Who ever before saw such enormous plum-puddings? Surely they have eaten enough. Why, that broad-shouldered sun-burnt fellow has clapped a solid pound upon his plate—it is burning hot: look how he holds that large lump, and blows it between his teeth; the tears fairly start into his eyes. Where are those legs of mutton, the chins, and sirloins, and aitch-bones of beef? Gone, for ever gone! And now come the custards, and cheese-cakes, and tarts. The men will assuredly burst. See, they loosen their neckerchiefs and their waistcoats; as if they were going to begin again in downright earnest. Every man seems as if he had brought the appetite of three, as if he were resolved to do his utmost; for "eat, drink, and spare not," is the order of the day; there is no one by to begrudge them.

The following beautiful song, which we found in a collection published nearly a century and a half ago, has, no doubt, often been carolled by many a voice, long since silent, at the old English Sheep-Shearing Feasts. We regret that we are unable to discover the Author's name, for every line is stamped with the impress of true poetry:—

Tarry wool, tarry wool,
Tarry wool is ill to spin;
Card it well, card it well,
Card it well ere ye begin.
When 'tis carded, rolled, and spun,
Then the work is almost done;
But when woven, drest, and clean,
It may be clothing for a queen.

Sin, my bonny harmless sheep,
That feed upon the mountains steep,
Bleating sweetly as ye go
Through the winter's frost and snow.
Hart and hind, and fallow deer,
Are not half so useful here.
From kigs, to him the plough does pull,
Are all obliged to tarry wool.

Up, ye shepherds! dance and skip,
O'er the hills and valleys trip;
Of tarry wool sing ye the praise,
Slap the flocks that do it raise:

Harmless creatures without blame,
That clothe the back, and feed the home;
Keep us warm, and hearty full;
Let us love the tarry wool.

How happy is a shepherd's life!
Far from courts, and free from strife.
While the ewes do bleat and "bae,"
And the lambskins answer "mae,"
No such music to his ear.
Of thief and fox he has no fear:
Shepherd will watch—dog rear and pull,
And well defend the tarry wool.

He lives content and envies none,
No, not a monarch on his throne;
Though he the royal sceptre sways,
He hath not sweeter holidays.
Who'd be a king, can any tell,
When a shepherd sings so well?
Sings so well, and pays in full,
With honest heart and tarry wool.

"It is a poor heart that never rejoices;" and when we think of the many bleak bitter nights at the close of February and the beginning of March which the shepherds have passed in the open fields, and on the windy hills, in the "lambing season," it gives one pleasure to see them still so happy. Many a lamb would have been lost, but for the care they took of them; for there they waited night after night, amid sleet and storm, in their little temporary huts, ready to rush out in a moment, and pick up and shelter the young lambs, which would otherwise, perchance, have perished in the cold. Proud were they, when finer days came, and they looked on and saw their new-born flocks racing in the meadows.

Now let us peep into that pretty parlour. There sit the farmer's daughters at tea. What piles of cakes, honey, butter, eggs, ham, cold fowl! What smiling faces! and some of them are really beautiful pictures of rosy health. Now they are singing in the kitchen; now the fiddle is heard in the barn; there is giggling and laughter in the orchard; whisperings somewhere in the garden; children playing at hide-and-seek in the stack-yard. See where those dark-eyed seducers, the gipsies, have congregated outside the farm-yard; somehow or another they have come in for their share of the feast: by and by, they will become bolder; or, bearing a child, will venture into the barn; another will follow; and as the ale-horn circulates, it will, long before midnight, be "Hail fellow! well met!"

Then come the morris dancers, "Robin Hood," and "Maid Marian," with such poetry as is not to be found in the old ballads. Well, there is plenty for all; the ale for Sheep-Shearing Feast was brewed many a long month ago; and there are still half a dozen barrels untapped in the cellar, all of which were brewed from an extra allowance of malt, for the great occasion of "Sheep-Shearing."

But where is the old farmer? He bade his men fall to, and welcome; and we have not seen him since. No, he is in the large, old-fashioned summer-house at the bottom of his garden, with the butcher, and the miller, and the maltster, and the doctor, and the landlord from the "Black Bull;" and they have drawn the corks of a few bottles of choice port, and are enjoying themselves in their own way. The young lawyer has brought his fiddle, for he is a gentleman fiddler; and the young ladies in the parlour will come soon, and dance on the lawn, for even there the line of distinction is drawn. The wealthy farmer's daughter may condescend just to dance a turn or two in the barn; and when they have gone, the old one-eyed hired fiddler will strike up "Bob and Joan," just to show his contempt for such proud, stuck-up "thingumterrys," as he will call them; "with their waltzes, and quadrilles, and such like outlandish fal-the-rals, as their grandmothers would have been ashamed to have been seen in."

All who have wandered into the country, about the beginning of summer, must have heard the unusual bleating amongst sheep in the neighbourhood of rivers and water-courses; and if they have never beheld such a scene before, must, when they have reached the spot, have looked both with interest and pleasure at a sheep-washing. There stand three powerful sun-burnt fellows, up to the middle in water. A sheep is forced in by a man on the bank; it is seized by the first washer, who, laying fast hold of the fleece, souses the poor creature about, as if he would shake it to pieces; he then looses his hold, and the bleating animal, as he begins swimming towards the shore, is seized by the second washer in whose hands he fares no better than he did whilst an unwilling prisoner to the first. He bleats more pitifully; and just as he is within a few feet of the shore, souse he goes over and over for the third time, and then he is at liberty. He reaches the bank, and there stands bleating, while the water flows from his heavy fleece. Others who have undergone the same fate bleat in reply; while the unwashed ones are not a bit behind-hand in their complainings, for a hundred sheep "baa" like one.

Then, what a roar of laughter comes ringing upon the air, at the sturdy sheep-

herd boy, who, while thrusting and forcing along some obstinate sheep to the edge of the water, is carried in, headlong, with his woolly companion; and, by an unexpected plunge, both aresent head over ear together, and land alike with a kindred and sheepish look, for Jack is passed from hand to hand, amid loud "guffaws," which are heard half a mile off.

Sometimes the village girls will come down to the sheep-washing, and then there flies round many a rough random shot of country wit: the girls trace strange likenesses amongst the sheep to some envied rival; and, in allusion to the number of lambs, "more is meant than meets the ear." The frailties of some fair Phyllis are shadowed forth; while Damon, although midway in water, burns up to his very ears. You find that Dianas are not the only nymphs who haunt the neighbourhood of these pastoral Arcadias.

We have before spoken of Sheep-Shearing as being an ancient festival, and in the Book of Samuel, we read of Nabul, a man in Ma'n, whose possessions were in Carmel, who had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats; "and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. And David heard in the Wilderness that Nabul did shear his sheep. And when David's young men came, they said to Nabul, 'We come at a good time.' We read again, in the same book, of Absalom having sheep-shearers, and inviting all the King's sons to the feast; and David was afraid to let all his sons go, lest they should cause Absalom too great an expense; and further on we find that they made merry with wine. For in our own English poet Herrick, we have it recorded that on such occasions there was always plenty—that the table was strown with no niggard hand.

They should see first and chief
Foundation of the feast—fat beef;
With upper stories mutton, veal,
And bacon, which makes full the meal:
With several dishes standing by,
As here a custard, there a pie,
And here all-tempting family.

Summer now reigns in the full womanhood of her beauty. The roses of her lips now put in the rounded sweetness of their bloom; and the sun has stained her cheeks with the richest dyes of heaven. Her hair is wreathed with the last blossoms of her choicest flowers; and when these are faded, she will begin to look round for her place of rest, for the beautiful summer has attained her full beauty, and is already doomed to die. Slowly, slowly, you see the flowers and leaves falling, to make her death-bed; and soon the sweet songsters will take their departure, for they cannot stay to look, while one so beautiful is about to gather up her gaudy garments in "dying dignity," and stretch herself upon a grave of faded flowers, to die. And yet, once again, Time will meet Summer

At this same place,
She'll look as lovely as of old.
For there will spring another race
Of flowers from out the upturn'd mould,
That have been buried long ago.

This has ever been our favourite month for angling. Not that we ever stood high as disciples of the "gentle" craft; but rather loved to let our rods lie idly amongst the reeds and flowers; or to watch the float riding lazily upon the ripples, while we whispered to the silvery shiver which the willows were ever making; or, with half closed eyes, lay drowsed beneath the perfume that came floating from some neighbouring bean-field. What a music there was in the lopping of the little ripples, as they came, one after another, to warm themselves on the sunny shore, bowing the reeds that grew a little way out as they passed. Or to watch (as I have, in my poem entitled "Summer Morning," described a scene), when it rained,

The leaves "drop," "drop," and dot the silver stream—
So quick each circle wore the first away.
To see the tufted bullrush stand and dream,
And to the ripple nod its head away;
The water-flies with one another play.
Bowling to every breeze that blows between,
While purple dragon-flies their wings display;
The restless swallow's arrowy flight is seen,
Dimpling the sunny wave then lost amid the green.

Such sights were more pleasing to us than the capture of a thousand fish.





		SUN.										MOON.										DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.										HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
		SOUTHS.										SOUTHS.																				AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	After- noon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	Before Sunrise.	O'Clock.	After Sunset.	O'Clock.	Morning.	Afternoon.	No Tide.																	
D	D		h. m.	m. s.	Deg.	h. m.	u. h.	m. h.	Deg.	h. m.	m. h.		2h. 3h. 4h.	Moons Age.	8h. 9h. 10h.																					
1	W	Lammas Day	4 25	6 1	56 1	7 46	5 55	10 19	18 3	1 54																										
2	Th	Antares souths 7h. 35m. P.M.	4 27	5 57	56 1	7 44	6 39	11 8	19 2	2 44																										
3	F	Alpha Herculis souths 8h. 18m. P.M.	4 28	5 52	56 1	7 43	7 16	11 56	21 1	3 40																										
4	S	[Oyst. seas. beg.	4 29	5 47	55 3	7 41	7 49	Morning.	25 1	4 42																										
5	S	9TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 31	5 42	55 3	7 40	8 17	0 44	27 1	5 46																										
6	M	Transfiguration	4 33	5 35	55 1	7 38	8 43	1 31	31 1	6 53																										
7	Tu	Name of Jesus	4 35	5 28	55 1	7 36	9 10	2 18	36 1	8 2																										
8	W	Alpha Ophiuchi souths 8h. 18m. P.M.	4 36	5 21	54 3	7 34	9 34	3 6	40 1	9 13																										
9	Th	Acc L. Phil. 1830	4 38	5 13	54 1	7 32	10 1	3 53	45 1	10 23																										
10	F	St. Lawrence	4 39	5 4	54 1	7 31	10 30	4 43	49 1	11 37																										
11	S	Dog Days end	4 41	4 55	53 3	7 29	11 2	5 34	52 1	Afternoon																										
12	S	10th S. aft. TRIN.	4 43	4 46	53 3	7 27	11 41	6 28	55 1	2 6																										
13	M	Qu. Adel. b. 1792	4 44	4 35	53 3	7 25	Morning.	7 25	56 1	3 16																										
14	Tu	Polaris souths 3h. 36m. A.M.	4 45	4 25	53 3	7 23	0 30	8 24	56 1	4 21																										
15	W	As. of B. V. Mary	4 46	4 13	52 1	7 21	1 27	9 24	55 1	5 19																										
16	Th	Alpha Lyrae souths 8h. 50m. P.M.	4 48	4 2	52 1	7 19	2 32	10 24	52 1	6 9																										
17	F	Duchess of Kent	4 49	3 49	52 1	7 17	3 43	11 22	—	6 49																										
18	S	[born 1786	4 51	3 37	51 1	7 15	4 59	Afternoon	49 1	7 23																										
19	S	11TH S. aft. TRIN	4 52	3 23	51 1	7 13	6 15	1 10	45 1	7 53																										
20	M	Beta Lyrae souths 8h. 50m. P.M.	4 54	3 10	51 1	7 11	7 28	2 0	40 1	8 20																										
21	Tu	Delta Aquile souths 9h. 17m. P.M.	4 55	2 55	50 1	7 9	8 39	2 48	36 1	8 45																										
22	W	Gamma Aquile souths 9h. 34m. P.M.	4 57	2 41	50 1	7 7	9 49	3 35	31 1	9 9																										
23	Th	Alpha Aquile souths 9h. 34m. P.M.	4 59	2 25	50 1	7 5	10 56	4 20	28 1	9 34																										
24	F	St. Bartholemew	5 0	2 10	49 1	7 3	Afternoon	5 6	24 1	10 2																										
25	S	[Pr. Alb. b. 1819	5 2	1 54	49 1	7 1	1 4	5 52	22 1	10 34																										
26	S	12TH S. aft. TRIN	5 3	1 37	49 1	6 59	2 3	6 38	20 1	11 10																										
27	M	Beta Aquile souths 9h. 24m. P.M.	5 5	1 20	48 1	6 57	2 58	7 25	18 1	11 51																										
28	Tu	St. Augustin	5 7	1 3	48 1	6 55	3 48	8 13	18 1	Morning.																										
29	W	St. John the Bap-	5 8	0 45	47 3	6 53	4 33	9 1	19 1	0 38																										
30	Th	tist beheaded	5 10	0 27	47 3	6 51	5 14	9 50	20 1	1 31																										
31	F	Alpha Cygni souths 9h. 56m. P.M.	5 12	0 9	47 1	6 48	5 49	10 38	23 1	2 31																										

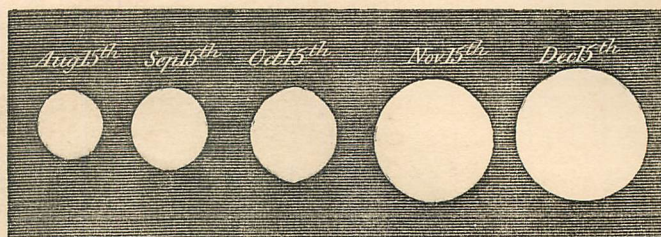
AUGUST.

PATH OF MARS, DURING THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

RELATIVE APPEARANCES OF MARS, IN THE MONTHS OF AUGUST TO
DECEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 20 seconds of arc to one inch.

URANUS rises about 4° N. of E. by N., on the 1st, at 10h. 7m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 8h. 8m. P.M. He souths, on the 15th, at 4h. 4m. A.M., at an altitude of 48°. He is nearly stationary among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 9th.

ON PLANETARY PHENOMENA.

(Continued from July.)

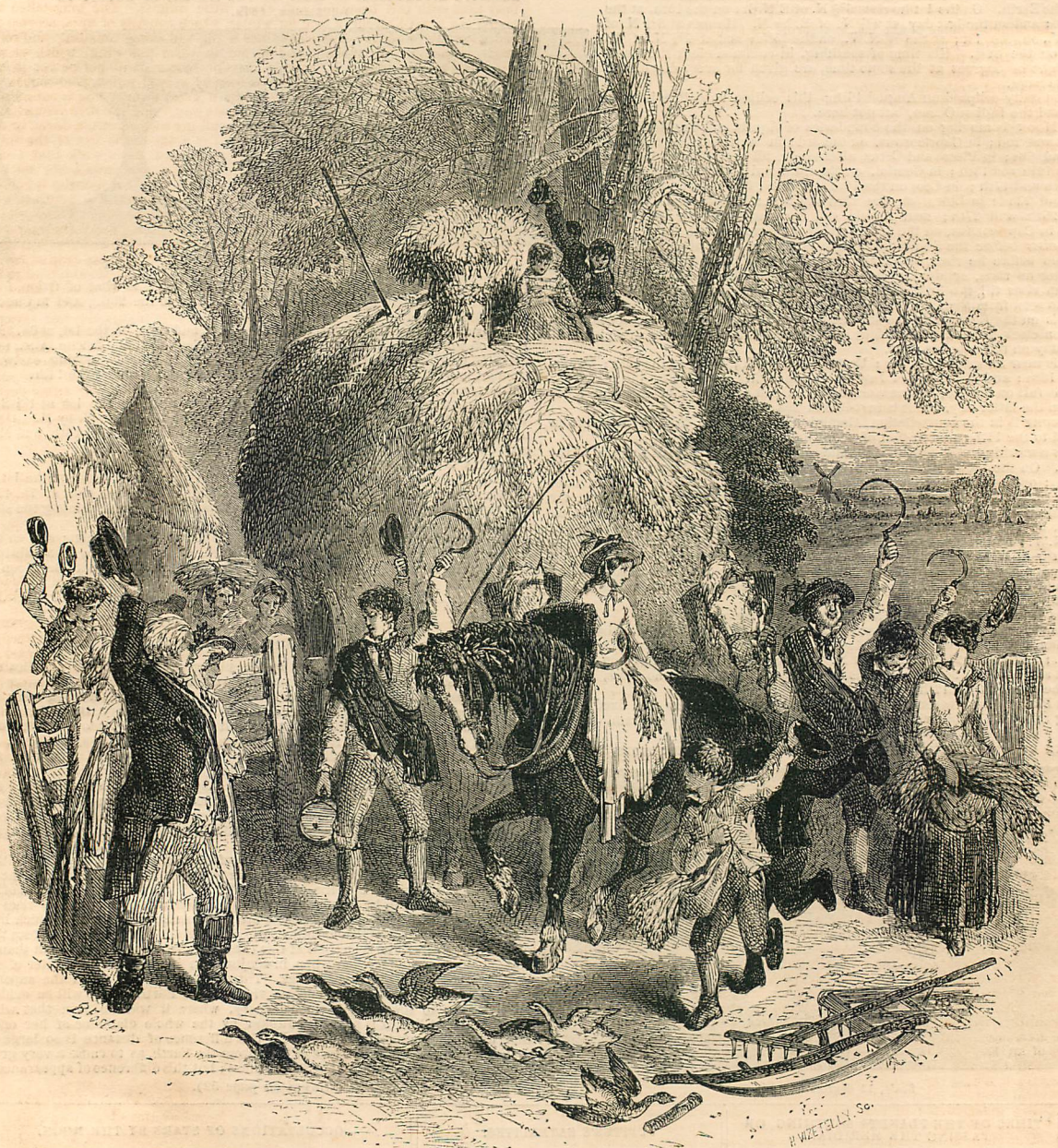
The orbit of the planet Mars encloses that of the Earth; and he is in opposition once in two years only. During that year in which he is not in opposition, he is dull and small (see page 9 of the Almanack for 1846); but near the period of his opposition he becomes large, red, and splendid. When in opposition, he rises as the Sun sets; and the Earth and planet are in the same straight line, which line, if continued, would pass through the Sun. Now, as the orbit of Mars encloses that of the Earth, it will be seen that at this time Mars is nearer to the Earth than at any other time—nearer than when in conjunction by the entire diameter of the Earth's orbit, or 190 millions of miles. This remark applies to all the superior planets, or those whose orbits enclose that of the Earth. This will be evident by reference to the diagram in February, where it will be seen that when the Earth is at E 2, it is nearer to Jupiter by the whole diameter of her orbit, than when she occupies the position E; this difference of distance is so large in proportion to the whole distance of Mars from the Earth, as to cause a very great difference in his appearance at different times; but this difference of appearance is

(Continued on page 52).

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS'S SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.		OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.			
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.			Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.
	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.						
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.			130 Tauri	6	<div><div>P. H. M.</div><div>{ 14 0 52 A.M.</div><div>{ 14 1 42 A.M.</div></div>	Bright Dark
6	11 2	8 53	6 47	1 21	3 54						
11	11 23	8 56	6 41	1 6	3 34						
16	11 45	8 58	6 34	0 50	3 14						
21	Aftern.	9 2	6 27	0 34	2 54						
26	0 24	9 6	6 20	0 19	2 33						
31	0 39	9 9	6 13	0 3	2 13						
	0 51	9 14	6 5	Morn.	1 52	Are not visible, Jupiter being too near to the Sun.					

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.																
	Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.				
		Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.			
FULL MOON	..	4D. 3H.	52M. A.M.	6	7h. 42m	21° 37'	5h. 33m	20° 18'	3h. 27m	17° 29'	10h. 1m	13° 4'	0h. 33m	0° 50'	1h. 39m	9° 36'
LAST QUARTER	..	11	1 33 P.M.	1	8 22	20 33	5 55	20 43	3 40	18 18	10 9	5 12	0 32	0 45	1 38	9 36
NEW MOON	..	18	5 33 A.M.	11	9 4	18 24	6 18	20 57	3 53	19 4	10 9	12 20	0 32	0 40	1 38	9 35
FIRST QUARTER	..	25	4 56 P.M.	16	9 45	15 25	6 41	21 0	4 6	19 45	10 14	11 57	0 31	0 34	1 38	9 34
PERIGEE	..	15	3 0 P.M.	21	10 23	11 54	7 4	20 50	4 19	20 22	10 18	11 34	0 30	0 28	1 38	9 32
APOGEE	..	27	11 0 P.M.	26	10 57	8 7	7 28	20 27	4 31	20 56	10 22	11 11	0 29	0 20	1 38	9 30

AUGUST.—HARVEST HOME.



About the cart hear how the rout
Of rural younglings raise the shout;
Pressing before, some coming after,
Those with a shout, and those with laughter;
Some bless the cart, some kiss the sheaves,
Some prank them up with oaken leaves.—HERRICK.

NEITHER the harvest-supper nor the sheep-shearing-feast present such poetical features as the rural employments which terminate in their celebration, for both in the end are but reduced to the common and necessary acts of eating and drinking. In harvest-time we see an old and beautiful picture; it was the same thousands of years ago; it is familiar to us in the pages of Holy Writ. Abraham and the early patriarchs have looked upon such scenes, for it has ever been a time of rejoicing. What rich pictures, mellowed with the sunsets of ages, rise before the eye as we look upon the sun-browned reapers! scenes not there presented, but such as have sprung from the events caused by good or bad harvests. We see, in Egypt, Joseph and his brethren; Abraham and Isaac overlooking the harvest-field from their tents; lands sold for measures of corn; David's household busy in the fields; Ruth "weeping amid the alien corn;" Our Saviour gathering the ears of wheat on the Sabbath; and a hundred other incidents which are connected with the sacred history of our religion.

But beautiful as may have been the harvest-fields of Palestine or Egypt, they could never have excelled in picturesque effect those which we have seen in our own England, hemmed in every way by rich and park-like scenery. Here vast

breezy uplands, that come sweeping down into broad pasture-lands, all waving golden with eary corn. Reapers and gleaners—men, women, and children—clothed in every variety of homely costume, standing, stooping, or sitting down beside the piled-up sheaves, or half-buried in some little hollow behind the standing corn. Little village urchins, whose bare hard legs are pierced all over with the sharp stubble, and who thrust straw and all into their small gleaming-bags, so that they may appear full against the given time of either luncheon or dinner, the only difference in the meal consisting in the name given to it, for the homely viands are the same. Nor are the actions of the reapers less interesting; there is a peculiar art in making those straw bands in which the sheaves are bound, in twisting the heads of corn together so as not to shake out the grain, in placing them nicely upon the stubble, and, finally, in tying up the sheaf itself, and securing the stubble ends of the band, and giving to them all, when bound, a free and plummy appearance. We see such scenes as bring before the eye Keats's splendid description of autumn, where he says:—

Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,

Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reaped furrow round asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies; while thy hook
Sparcs the next swathe, and all its twisted flowers;
And sometimes, like a gleaner, thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook.

But the bringing home of the last load forms the subject of our present Sketch, such as we have witnessed, and has received all but life and motion from the hands of the artist. The farmer's daughter, an interesting girl, was selected for the Harvest Queen, and dressed out very becomingly for the occasion, her little round straw-hat wreathed with ears of corn and convolvuluses; she was seated sideways on the leader, a fine chestnut-coloured horse, whose head was decorated with bunches of corn-flowers and blue ribbons; the hat of the driver was also adorned with bows of the same hue, "true blue" being your rustic's favourite colour; every horse in the team was distinguished by similar ornaments. The last "stook" is, however, still standing in the field, the topmost sheaf of which is buried beneath bunches of rich-coloured ribands and flowers; long streams of blue and yellow and crimson have been floating out from the top of that "shock" ever since morning, and now the whole row along the furrow has disappeared, excepting that. At last the waggon approaches it, the gleaners and reapers rend the air with their loud huzzas, as the "harvest-sheaf," the crown of the field, is held high on the long pitching-fork by the labourer; it is then received by the man on the top of the load, and then reared on end, the most conspicuous object, through its gaudy colours, in the whole landscape. A few lines from our "Book of Autumn" will close the scene:—"Onward comes the waggon—the last load reaches the village—at the end of which the worthy farmer lives, and every cottager rushes out with a hearty welcome to hail the procession as it passes. The little tailor uncrosses his legs, throws down his gosse and sleeve-board, and with his hose ungartered and hanging about his heels, his spectacles thrust high up his forehead, raises his child-like voice, and brandishes his shears above his head, causing them to snap together at every shout, as he joins in the loud jubilee. The smoke-grimed blacksmith leans his naked and brawny arms across the half-door of his smithy, while his man John stands in the middle of the road swinging his heavy hammer in the air, and grinning from ear to ear with delight. The wheelwright leaves the tire half-driven in the smoking wheel; and, untying his painted and dirty apron, shakes it out with all his might, causing the chips, dirt, and shavings to fly in every direction, while his deep voice rings out like the peal of a trumpet. The lame shoemaker next appears, bearing in his hand one of the farmer's heavy top-boots, which he was repairing when the waggon came up. He seems almost as much delighted as if the whole load were his own; his wife and children have been allowed to glean ever since the first day the reapers put their sickle into the standing corn, and the poor fellow is grateful for such kindness. The deaf old grandmother, who seldom quits her creaking wicker-chair and spinning-wheel in the chimney-corner, comes out, with her withered hand raised to shade the sunshine from her furrowed face, and, followed by the old grey cat, she raises the tin trumpet to her ear, and drinks in the glad sounds which she has been accustomed to hear through fourscore bygone harvests; and all the long evening the deaf old woman will be happy and talkative, telling about the May-days, and sheep-shearing feasts, and harvest-homes she attended when young, what she wore, and with whom she danced; and before her dim eyes will pass in long array the scenes of sixty years, and she will again recal the features of many who are now no more.

Each in his narrow cell, or ever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

Every one at all conversant with history has read the sufferings and privation, which whole nations have endured in times of scarcity, and can well understand why in the olden time there was so much rejoicing over a plentiful harvest. The richest crop ever hangs upon a "slender thread;" the finest fields of corn that ever bowed in the breeze or glittered in the summer sunlight, a few days' rain may blacken and destroy, and render unfit for food. Man cannot protect his crop against the elements, until it is garnered. Although the broad seas are now open, and ships from every corner of the globe may pour foreign grain into every store-house in England, yet we shall be sorry to see the day when she puts her chief trust in such supplies. She is not yet prepared to turn her rich corn-fields into grounds for factories, nor to trust to other nations for her supplies of corn. England, from the very richness of its soil and beauty of its scenery, was ordained to be an agricultural country; and however far its great cities may in time extend, it must be the work of ages to blot out the farms, and homesteads, and green rural scenes which are still its greatest charms.

Our merchants and manufacturers struggle on for years in close rooms and crowded offices, in the hope of at last retiring into some little village with its orchard, garden, and green field, and there to end their days in peace and tranquillity. Such a wish has ever been foremost in the bosoms of our great poet, statesmen, and philosophers. It is a distinguishing feature in the character of an Englishman; and perhaps in no other nation in the world is there such a thirst for this green retirement and domestic peace.

Autumn is a busy time with many animals as well as with man. The squirrel and several kinds of mice store up provision against winter, for although they hibernate a great portion of that season, yet a mild, warm atmosphere often awakes them, when they have recourse to the larder, then turn round, and sleep again. Mr. Couch, in his "Animal Instinct," says, "Long before the period of hibernation, and while the degree of temperature, and the abundance of subsistence, occupation, and amusement, one would suppose, would postpone the anticipation of such a state, creatures ordinarily subject to it are found entering upon a series of labours which, to the eye of reason, are as clearly indications of prospective intention as the building of a nest for incubation, or the storing of food for a time of scarcity. In some parts of the Russian dominions, as early as the month of August, while summer is in its glory, and everything inviting to enjoyment of the present rather than care for the future, the rat-hare sets about collecting the herbs which are to form its winter bed, and spreads them out to dry in the sun. In September these dried vegetables are gathered into heaps, which are sometimes the fruits of the labours of a single individual, and at others the united efforts of a company. The hamster in the Alps, and, in our own country, the dormouse, the shrew, and, in a less degree, the hedgehog, have the same habits; in all their proceedings making a marked distinction between their ordinary summer residences, or the receptacles for their young, and those in which they are to pass the time of insensibility. After accomplishing these preparations, a long time is suffered to pass before these animals finally retire to their winter retreats, and then they wrap themselves up in the accumulated materials, with a care and skill that indicate how well they are aware of the danger of exposure. The dormouse and harvest-mouse (whose summer nests have been placed on elevated stalks of grass, or in the branches of a furze-bush) now wrap themselves up in a ball, so closely woven together as to admit of being rolled about without disturbing its slumbering inhabitant, and stow themselves away in some crevice or recess among the entangled roots of a tree, beneath the soil." Mr. Bell asserts that the hibernation of the hedgehog "is as complete as that of any animal inhabiting this country;" he further asserts

(and we know no higher authority) that it lays up no provision for winter. On the contrary, although the squirrel sleeps away a great portion of the cold season, it lays up ample stores—not all in one place, but concealing the different stores in the holes of several trees around its haunts. Autumn is, therefore, a busy time with this beautiful and clean little animal. The long-tailed field-mouse is a great hoarder of food for winter, which consists of nuts, acorns, corn, and a variety of seeds; and sometimes a pig will come smelling and rooting about, to discover the treasure, and devour it. The following, which we wrote some time ago, to amuse a juvenile class of readers, will not be out of place here; it is supposed to embody the feelings of a long-tailed field-mouse, who sits hiding himself in a dark corner while a great hungry hog is eating up all his stock of provisions. "I wish it may choke you," said the field-mouse, "that I do, you great grunting brute! There go all my nice acorns, a dozen or more at a mouthful. Twelve long journeys had I in a day to the foot of the old oak tree to bring home a dozen of those—such a hard day's work that I could scarcely sleep a wink at night after, so much did my poor jaws ache; for I was forced to bring home every one in my mouth; and now that monster is gobbling up the whole hoard. He devours what cost me the labour of a month in a minute or two! Whatever I shall live on in winter I don't know. There goes my corn, too, which I dragged home, by an ear at a time, all the way from the harvest field on the other side of the wood, and with which I was often forced to rest two or three times during my journey; and sometimes I was compelled to drop an ear, and fight some other field-mouse that had a longer tail than myself, who tried to take the ear away under the pretence of helping me home with it, when I knew well enough it was his own nest he intended carrying it to. I wish I were big enough to thrash that great, ugly, grunting brute; really it makes one feel savage to think that after so much fetching, and carrying, and striving from morning to night—packing all up so snugly together, and not leaving even a single grain littered about, that a great thief should come in this way, break into one's house, and eat up everything, rump and stump." Naturalists say, that, after such a disaster, the field-mouse will fight his way into another nest, and either oust the inhabitant, or fall in the attempt. Wilson has beautifully depicted the pleasure of wandering amongst the mountains at this season of the year. "The wanderer, or hunter," he says,

Now meets on the hill
The new-waken'd daylight so bright and so still;
And feels, as the clouds of the morning unroll,
The silence, the splendour enoble his soul.
'Tis his on the mountains to stalk like a ghost,
Enshrouded in mists in which nature is lost,
Till he lifts up his eyes, and flood, valley, and height,
In one moment all swim in an ocean of light;
While the sun, like a glorious banner unfurled,
Seems to wave o'er a new, more magnificent world.

The scream of the eagle, the bounding of the mountain-deer, and the thunder of the cataract, complete the picture, and add their voices to the solitude. "Insects still continue to swarm," says Forster, "and to sport in the sun from flower to flower: it is very amusing to observe in the sunshine of an August morning their animation. The beautiful little blue butterfly is then all life and activity, flitting over the flowers and grass with remarkable vivacity. There seems to be a constant rivalry between this beauty and another no less elegant little bean, though of a different colour, frequenting the same station, attached to the same head of clover or of hare-bell; wherever they approach, mutual animosity seems to possess them; and, darting on each other with courageous rapidity, they buffet and contend until one is driven from the field, or to a considerable distance from his station, when the victor again returns to his post in triumph; and this contention is renewed so long as the brilliancy of the sun animates their courage." We have an admirable description of a butterfly that went out for a day's pleasure, written by the author of the immortal "Faery Queen," who tells us how it at last reached a garden, and there

Arriving, round about doth fly,
From bed to bed, from one to t'other border;
And takes survey, with curious busy eye,
Of every flower and herb there set in order;
Now this, now that, he tasteth tenderly;
Yet none of them he rudely doth disorder.





		SUN. SOUTH.										MOON. SOUTH.										DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.										HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.				Day of the Year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	Rises.	Before 10 o'clock.			Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.			Sets Morning.	Before Sunrise.			After Sunset.			Morning.	Afternoon.	Day of the Year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
				H. M.	M. S.	Deg.			H. M.	H. M.	Deg.		H. M.	H. M.	Deg.	O'Clock.	2h. 4h. 5h.	Moons Age.				O'Clock.	7h. 8h. 10h.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
1	S	Pidge. shoot. beg	5 13	0 10	46 1/4	6 46	6 20	11 26	26 1/2	3 34																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

SEPTEMBER.

THE SUN is in the sign Virgo till the 23rd, on which day, at 4h. 3m. A.M., he enters that of Libra (the Balance), and Autumn commences.

On the 1st he is 95,806,000 miles from the earth. On the 1st he rises at 4° N. of E. by N.; and on the 23rd, at the E. He sets, on the 1st, at the W. by N.; and on the 23rd, at 4° S. of W. points of the horizon. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

The MOON is in the constellation Aquarius on the 1st and 2nd; in Pisces and Cetus alternately, till the 7th; in Taurus, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th; in Gemini, on the 11th and 12th; in Cancer, on the 13th; in Leo, on the 14th and 15th; in Virgo, from the 16th to the 19th; in Libra, on the 20th and 21st; in Ophiuchus, on the 22nd and 23rd; near Aquila and Sagittarius, on the 24th, 25th, and 26th; in Capricornus, on the 27th; and in Aquarius, till the 30th, on which day she passes into Pisces.

She rises, on the 1st, at 53m. before the Sun sets; on the 2nd, at 4m. after he sets; from the 5th to the 16th, during the night; and from the 17th, during the day. She sets before the Sun rises, on the 1st and 2nd; during the day, from the 3rd to the 15th; and after the Sun sets, or during the night, from the 16th.

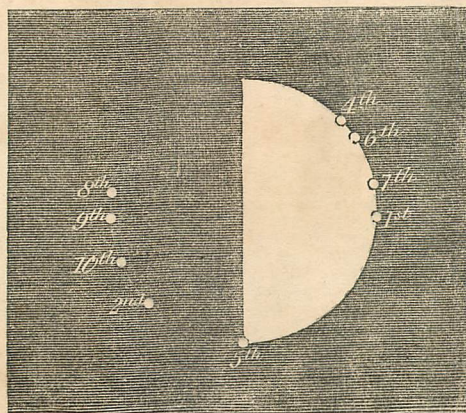
She is on the Equator on the 4th and on the 17th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Saturn on the 4th; Uranus, on the 6th; Mars, on the 9th; Venus, on the 13th; Jupiter, on the 15th; and Mercury, on the 18th.

She is full on the 2nd, and new on the 16th; and an Eclipse of the Moon takes place at the former time, but invisible in this country.

During the night, which is common to the 8th and 9th, the Moon will occult several stars. The form of the illuminated part of the Moon at the times will be that of a half-moon nearly; and, consequently, one-half of the phenomena will take place at the bright limb, and the other at the dark limb. To facilitate the observation of these phenomena, the following diagram is annexed.

OCCULTATION OF STARS BY THE MOON, ON SEPTEMBER 8TH AND 9TH.

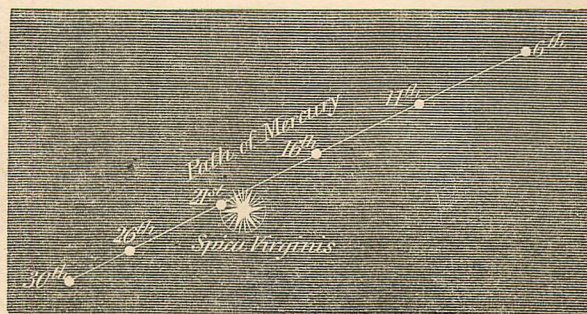


	will disappear at the place marked	D. H. M.	and re-appear at the place marked	D. H. M.
71 Tauri	1 at 8 10 1 P.M.		2 at 8 10 47 P.M.	
Theta 2 Tauri	3 at 8 11 10 "		5 at 8 11 37 "	
80 Tauri	4 at 8 11 27 "		8 at 9 0 21 A.M.	
81 Tauri	6 at 8 11 40 "		9 at 9 0 36 "	
85 Tauri	7 at 9 0 13 A.M.		10 at 9 1 13 "	

MERCURY is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month.

He is an evening star; and sets, from the 1st to the 25th, at 28m. to 30m. after the Sun sets; he is, therefore, not very favourably situated for observation. He sets, on the 6th, at the W.; on the 16th, at the W. by S.; and on the 28th, at the W.S.W. points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars during the month; is near the Moon on the 18th, and Spica Virginis on the 20th, as shewn in the annexed diagram. He is at his greatest elongation on the 30th.

PATH OF MERCURY, FROM THE 6TH OF SEPTEMBER, 1849, TO THE END OF THE MONTH.

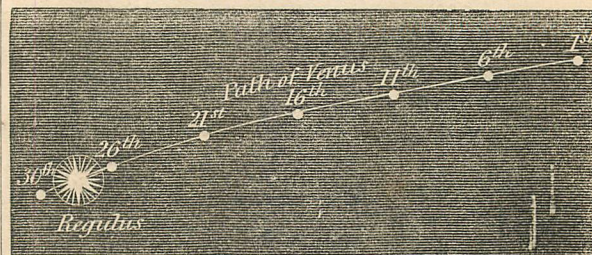


Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

VENUS is in the constellation Cancer till the 16th and in that of Leo, from the 17th.

She is a morning star throughout the month; and rises, on the 1st, at 1h. 23m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 2h. 33m. A.M.; at 9° N. of E.N.E. on the 1st, and at the E.N.E. on the 24th. She is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month; is near the Moon on the 13th; is moving towards Regulus till the 26th; is near this Star on the 27th; and moves eastward from it after the 27th, as shewn in the annexed diagram.

PATH OF VENUS, IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

MARS is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month.

He is visible throughout the greater part of the night; and rises, on the 1st, at 10h. 1m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 8h. 57m. P.M.; at 3° N. of N.E. by N. on the 1st, and at 3° N. of N.E. by N. on the 30th. His times of southing are given below; and he is, at those times, 60° above the horizon on the 1st day, and 61° on the last day. He sets about 1h. P.M. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 9th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo throughout the month.

He is a morning star; but visible for a short time only. Rises at 4h. 46m. A.M. on the 1st, at 6° N. of E. by N.; and at 3h. 27m. A.M., on the last day, at 2° N. of E. by N. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 15th.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month.

He is visible throughout the night; and rises, on every day, near the east point of the horizon; at 7h. 43m. P.M., on the 1st; at 6h. 46m. P.M., on the 15th; and at 5h. 42m. P.M., on the 30th; and passes the meridian at an altitude of 39° nearly on every day. He moves very slowly westward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 4th, and is in opposition to the Sun on the 27th.

URANUS rises about 4° N. of E. by N.; on the 1st, at 8h. 4m. P.M.; and on the last day at 6h. 8m. P.M. He souths on the 15th, at 2h. A.M., at an altitude of 48° ; is moving slowly westward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 6th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.		OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.			Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Afternoon	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.							
1	H. M. 0 53	H. M. 9 14	H. M. 6 4	H. M. 11 45	H. M. 1 48			e ^o Aquarii	6	D. H. M. 1 6 35 P.M.	Dark	
6	1 2	9 19	5 56	11 29	1 27							
11	1 10	9 23	5 48	11 14	1 6			h ¹ Aquarii	6	2 8 43 P.M.	Bright	
16	1 15	9 27	5 39	10 58	0 45							
21	1 20	9 31	5 29	10 42	0 24	Are not visible, Jupiter being too near to the Sun.		27 Piscium	5	3 10 28 P.M.	Bright	
26	1 22	9 34	5 20	10 26	0 3							Nu Piscium	5	3 11 12 P.M.	Dark
30	1 22	9 37	5 11	10 14	Aftern.			f Tauri	5½	5 10 32 P.M.	Bright	
										7 10 36 P.M.	Bright	
												7 11 31 P.M.	Dark
RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.												
Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North.	Right Ascension	Declina- tion North
FULL MOON ..	11h.35m	3° 30'	7h.57m	19° 41'	4h.46m	21° 30'	10h.27m	10° 43'	0h.28m	0° 11'	1h.37m	9° 28'
LAST QUARTER ..	12 4	South	8 20	18 49	4 57	21 55	10 31	10 19	0 27	0 2	1 37	9 25
NEW MOON ..	12 31	3 53	8 44	17 43	5 8	22 17	10 35	9 55	0 25	South.	1 36	9 21
FIRST QUARTER ..	12 57	7 18	9 8	16 24	5 20	22 36	10 39	9 32	0 24	0 16	1 35	9 18
PERIGEE ..	13 21	10 26	9 32	14 54	5 30	22 52	10 43	9 9	0 23	0 26	1 35	9 14
APOGEE ..	13 43	13 12	9 55	13 13	5 40	23 5	10 47	8 45	0 21	0 35	1 34	9 10

SEPTEMBER.—A COUNTRY FAIR.



They climb the pole, they run the races,
They laugh to see the clown's grimaces;
They leave behind all grief and care,
And come light-hearted to the fair.

THERE is no place like a country air, wake, or statute, for getting a true insight into the characters of our English peasantry. There all reserve is laid aside, and Johnny and Molly do really enjoy themselves. A stranger might walk a hundred miles through the country, and never meet with a tithe of the character he will here pick up. Johnny invariably carries a stick in his hand, and, unless when talking, eating, or drinking, you find the knob thrust into his mouth. He wears high ankle-boots, laced very tight, and twines the lace three or four times round the ankle before he fastens it. He has on worsted hose, either blue or grey, and prefers having them ribbed. His breeches are either velveteen, corduroy, or velvet, with pearl buttons on the knees, and a large bunch of drab ribbon, the ends of which he likes to see hang a good way down; if these are new, he generally tucks up his smock-frock to show them. His waistcoat is either plush, or a light kind of fustian, stamped all over with spots, rings, squares, or diamonds; if he can get a pattern with half-a-dozen colours in it, he likes it all the better; for if it is large and staring he knows Betty will consider it very neat. His neckerchief is generally either red or yellow; and he likes the ends to hang out a good way, and to feel the "real India" blowing about his face. He rubs up the down on his hat the wrong way to show how

thick it is of "beaver;" or he owes to see everything he wears stick out and be conspicuous.

Molly has generally a pair of pattens in one hand, and a cotton umbrella in the other. It matters not how fair or fine it may be—she bought them a Michaelmas or two before, and she argues that it is no use having such things unless she brings them out. If she has a sweetheart, he generally carries the pattens, and they are the cause of a little attention on both sides; for she sometimes says, "Let me carry 'em a bit, John, to wrestle thy fates;" and he answers, "Noah, Molly, thankeen thee; I wool howd 'em mysen." Her gown is the gaudiest she can purchase—the pattern either a great unnatural flower, or a trailing sea-weed, bordered with shells. She likes a red shawl, because it can be seen a long way off. As soon as they get into the fair, John either buys a pound of gingerbread or nuts, which he ties up in his handkerchief, leaving, however, one corner open, into which they can insert their hands; they crack and munch away while there is one left. Sometimes she says they're "mixed;" and he says "Hey?" They then saunter round and have a look at the shows and booths: he buys a knife with three or four blades, which is only fit to cut butter. Molly purchases a few yards of red or blue ribbon. Sometimes they are

asked to buy a rattle for a baby, a doll, or a cradle; and, oh! how they do laugh! Molly is compelled to dig her elbow into her sweetheart's sides, and to say, "A'done, John, wilt?" They then pay a penny each and have a look into a peep-show; when it is over Johnny wonders how they can get such long streets and big houses into such a little place, and Molly answers that "It's all magic." They rest try their fortune in a penny lucky-bag, which they are assured contains "all prizes and no blanks." Johnny gets a cotton stay-lace, and Molly a row of pins. They purchase a song of the ballad singer, which is "all about love and such like;" they then get into a swing-boat, and are tossed up and down until they begin to feel very queer indeed, for they have eaten all the pasty they could fancy, to say nothing of apples, nuts, oranges, pears, plums, and ginger-beer. They then adjourn to the public-house "to rest and settle down a bit." John meets a few acquaintance and tries to smoke a pipe; this, with a few glasses of ale, sets his tongue a-going. There is generally a recruiting party in the room, and as the ale gets into his noddle he talks about "listing, at which Molly pulls his sleeve and says, "Duna be a fool, Johnny." He then tries a song; and, to make the tune and the metre harmonise, lays his accents as follows:—

As I was a walkén' on one e-è-v-nine
All down by a river s-i-d-e,
And a gazén' all around me,
A I-rish girl I spi-d-e,
Its red and ro-see was her lips,
And so cool-black was her hair,
And so cool-lil was the robes of gowd
This I-rish girl did wear.

He offers to thrash, plough, reap, or mow, with "any man i' the room for a growden guinea, and to put the money down." He gets his comrade who is drinking with him to feel his arm, and sometimes bares it to show the strength of his muscles. He tells how he once lifted a sack of corn into the waggon, without ever letting it rest upon him, only touching it with his hands. He would quarrel were it not for Molly getting up and popping her pattens between her lover and his opponent. Johnny gets half-mellow, is ready for anything, and will go out. Molly has picked up a female companion, whose sweetheart is as far gone as her own, and they follow arm-in-arm to see that nothing happens to their rustic lovers. Now John is either ready to climb the pole for a new hat, ride a donkey race, wheel a barrow blindfold, jump in a sack, or, as he says, "any manner of thing." There is soon seen a lot of sacks full of men, with only a head peeping out, and Johnny's about the most stupid of the whole lot, for he makes up the one of half-a-dozen who begin with jumping in the sacks. He gets in with great difficulty, has his arms thrust down, is tied up above the shoulders, and, when the word "Off!" is given, he is about the first that falls. Molly can hardly unloose him for laughing. "Better luck next time," says Johnny; and he enters the chase for the pig with its scaped tail, rubbing his hand well in the sand to make it rough before he starts. The pig is turned to lose, and after him they start. Johnny is beginning to get a little sober by this time, and is, moreover, a capital runner. He seizes the pig by the tail, and is pulled headlong into a ditch, while the grunter escapes and "saves his bacon." Nor do we ever remember seeing a pig fairly caught in this manner, for the law is, that it must only be captured by laying hold of the tail. Molly has now a job to rub the mud off Johnny, which she does by pulling up large handfuls of grass. While she is cleaning him, he stands very still, and looks very sheepish.

The hat still stands high on the top of the slender pole, ornamented with blue ribbons. The pole itself is rubbed with soft-soap and grease from top to bottom. Those who have attempted to climb are as greasy as butchers. In vain do they try to reach it; sand and sawdust are useless; even the miller's attempt was a failure, although he went up with his pockets filled with flour, and rubbed the pole with it every inch he gained. At length a sweep came, with his soot-bag twisted round him. They shook the pole, but still he continued to ascend, and all the shaking was in vain, for whenever you looked up you saw him looking down, showing his white eyes and white teeth. He trusted to his soot, feet, and hands, together with his long experience in difficult chimneys, and seldom failed to bring down the prize. But the wheelbarrow race, blindfolded, was the best of all, for no one could see the mark he was running at. Some called "Left!" some "Right!" and, as each competitor had only the voices of the bystanders to guide him, away he went at full speed, obeying their directions as well as he could. Some foundered in a neighbouring pond, others in an opposite ditch. Johnny was the most fortunate of the lot, for he trusted to the clanking of Molly's patten-rings (a device of her own, before agreed upon), and won the new smock-frock, with all its garniture of sky-blue ribbons, the perquisites of his beloved Molly—for this stroke of policy was her own.

Nor was the donkey-race the least amusing part of a country fair; although we had bet ten to one on the favourite, there were the same odds against his moving at all—for it was ten to one if he would even start; if he did, we well knew that he could "win in a canter," as they say. Very annoying it was, after having risked all our pocket-money, to see the brute stick his head up against the pailings and show his heels at every one who had courage enough to approach him. Yet such was too often the case, for he seemed not to care a straw for the new saddle which was exhibited at the winning-post in the distance. Perhaps if he did turn his eyes in that direction it was with some such thought as "I wish you may get it; catch me at that; were I to win every varlet in the village would want a ride, and I should be compelled to carry him;" and the very thought caused him to "lanch out" more viciously than ever.

Such is the picture of an English country fair, or wake, which a traveller may sometimes stumble upon as he comes unawares upon a little village standing half-buried amid the surrounding trees.

The woods are now beautiful; and never did the hand of an artist throw such rich colours upon the glowing canvass as may now be found in the variegated foliage of the trees. The leaves of the beech are dyed in the deepest orange that ever the eye saw gathered in golden clouds around a summer sunset; the dark green of the oak is in parts mellowed into a bronzy brown, blending beautifully with the faded yellow of the chestnut, and the deeper hues of the tall elm; while here and there the sable fir settles down into dark shadows between the alternate tints; and far as the eye can range along the wide outskirts of the forest it revels in the mingled hues of mountain, field, ocean, and sky, as if the flowered meadow, and the purple mountain, and the green billows of the sea, the blazing sunset, and the dark clouds of evening, had all rolled together their bright and sombre hues, and gathered about the death-bed of the beautiful summer. Over the hedgerow trails the rambling briony; and we see bunches of crimson and green berries, half-tempting us by their gushing ripeness to taste the poisonous juice which lies buried beneath their deceptive beauty. The hips of the wild rose rest their rich scarlet upon the carved ebony of the luscious blackberry; while the deep blue of the sloe throws over all the rich bloomy velvet of its fruit, as it stands crowned with its ruddy tiara of hawthorn berries. On the ground are scattered thousands of polished acorns, their carved and clear cups lying empty amongst the fallen leaves until gathered by the village children, who deck their rustic stools with these primitive tea-services, and assemble around them with smiling faces and looks of eager enjoyment, while they sip their sugar and water out of these old fairy-famed drinking vessels. I have attempted to describe the

beauty and tranquillity of the calm evenings which we see at the close of summer and the commencement of autumn, in a little poem entitled

THE EVENING HYMN.

Another day, with mute adieu,
Has gone down yon untrodden sky,
And still it looks as clear and blue
As when it first was hung on high:
The sinking sun, the darkening cloud,
That drew the lightning in his rear,
The thunder tramping deep and loud,
Have left no footmark there.

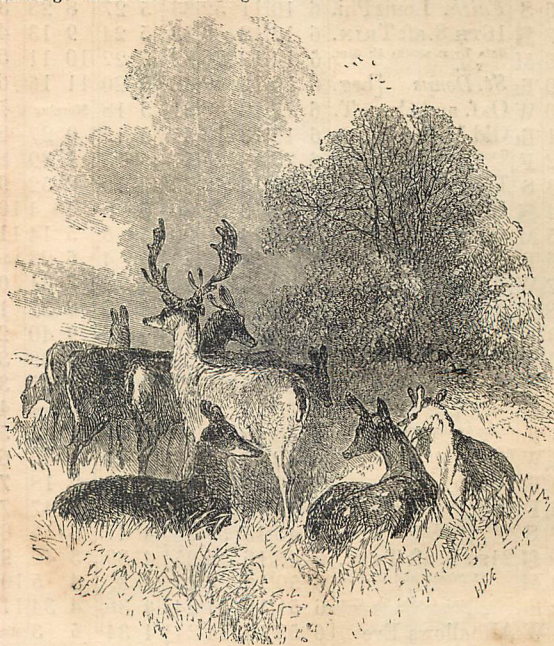
The village bells, with silv'ry chime,
Come soften'd by the distant shore;
Though I have heard them many a time,
They never rang so sweet before.
A silence rests upon the hill,
A listening awe pervades the air,
The very flowers are shut and still,
And bow'd as if in prayer.

And in this hush'd and breathless pause
O'er earth, and air, and sky, and sea,
A still low voice in silence goes,
Which speaks alone, great God, of Thee!
The whispering leaves, the far off brook,
The linnet's warble fainter grown,
The hive-bound bee, the homeward rook—
All these their Maker own.

Now shine the starry hosts of light,
Gazing on earth with golden eyes—
Bright sentinels that guard the night,
What are ye in your native skies?
I know not—neither can I know,
Nor on what leader ye attend,
Nor whence ye come, nor whither go,
Nor what your aim nor end.

In many places in the fields are now found numbers of spider-webs, sometimes in two or three thicknesses, one above the other; they are very annoying to the dogs while hunting, who are frequently compelled to tear them off with their paws. Numbers of these webs may at times be seen floating in the air like huge flakes of snow, and shining like silver as they descend in the sunshine. Partridges now resort to the stubble fields, having been compelled to retreat to cover during the noise and stir attendant upon gathering in the harvest. They prefer, when they have young ones, to nestle in the open fields, as they have there a better chance of escaping from stoats and weasels. Wood-owls are now heard hooting in the night: and during a heavy gale of wind, which brings down thousands of leaves at a gust, the rattling of the branches and the hooting of the owls form a very solemn concert, especially at midnight to the ears of a lonely wayfarer who is making a short cut homeward through an old wood. The air is also now filled with winged emigrants, the down of thistles and dandelions, which go sailing away over many a broad field before they alight, and pitch their tents, in which they sleep throughout the winter—then rise up in a new form in the coming spring. What a beautiful picture is now presented in the Mirror of the Months, when the numerous flock is driven to the fold as the day declines, its scattered members converging towards a point as they enter the narrow opening of their nightly enclosure, which they gradually fill and settle into as a shallow stream runs into a bed that has been prepared for it, and there settles into a still pool. And, again, in the early morning, when the slender barrier that confines them is removed, they crowd and hurry out, gently intercepting each other; and, as they get free, pour forth their white fleeces over the open field, as a lake that has broken its bank pours its waters over the adjoining land; in each case the bells and meek voices of the patient people making music as they move, and the shepherd standing carelessly by leaning on his crook—even as shepherds did in the vale of Arcadia.

Another pleasant picture of autumn is the busy thatcher with the clear bright yellow straw strewn about the foot of his ladder, while he, high up, is making a golden roof over the treasures which have been gathered in from the harvest-field. Your good thatcher is generally an excellent maker of beehives, and his cottage is often situated by the side of a running stream; and there he steep his straw, and splits his long straight skains of bramble with which he binds his golden-coloured domes together.





M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.				HIGH WATER				Day of the Year
			SOUTHS.					SOUTHS.									AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
			Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon.	Afternoon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	Before Sunrise.	Moon's Age.	After Sunset.	Morning.	Afternoon.				
D	D		H. M.	M. S.	Deg.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Deg.	H. M.	O'Clock. 2h. 4h. 5h.	Mo. Age.	O'Clock. 7h. 8h. 10h.			H. M.	H. M.				
1	M	Pheas. sht. beg.	6	1	10	21	35	4	40	5	41	11	43	37	4	44	1	20	1	38	274
2	Tu	L. Univ. op. 1828	6	3	10	40	35	5	38	6	7	Morning.	42	5	58	1	55	2	15	275	
3	W	Old St. Matthew	6	5	10	58	34	5	35	6	35	0	33	46	7	11	2	35	2	50	276
4	Th	Alpha Lyrae souths 5h. 39m. P.M.	6	7	11	17	34	5	32	7	6	1	25	50	8	28	3	10	3	30	277
5	F	[lippe born, 1773	6	9	11	34	33	5	29	7	41	2	19	53	9	43	3	45	4	5	278
6	S	Faith. Louis Phi.	6	10	11	52	33	5	27	8	23	3	14	56	10	57	4	25	4	45	279
7	S	18TH S. aft TRIN.	6	12	12	9	33	5	24	9	13	4	12	56	1	8	5	10	5	30	280
8	M	Beta Lyrae souths 5h. 35m. P.M.	6	14	12	26	32	5	22	10	11	5	10	56	2	0	5	55	6	20	281
9	Tu	St. Denys [beg.	6	16	12	42	32	5	20	11	16	6	8	54	2	0	6	50	7	20	282
10	W	Oxf. and Cam. T.	6	17	12	58	31	5	18	Morning.	7	5	52	2	45	7	55	8	40	283	
11	Th	Old Michael. Day	6	19	13	13	31	5	15	0	27	8	0	48	3	21	9	25	10	10	284
12	F	Gamma Aquila souths at 6h. 14m P.M.	6	20	13	28	31	5	13	1	39	8	52	44	3	52	10	55	11	30	285
13	S	Trans. K. Ed. Con.	6	22	13	42	30	5	10	2	52	9	42	40	4	20	No Tide.	0	1		286
14	S	19TH S. aft TRIN.	6	24	13	56	30	5	8	4	4	10	31	35	4	47	0	25	0	50	287
15	M	[by Fire, 1834	6	25	14	9	30	5	6	5	14	11	18	—	5	12	1	15	1	35	288
16	Tu	Houses Parl. des.	6	27	14	22	29	5	4	6	23	Afternoon.	31	4	5	36	1	55	2	15	289
17	W	Etheldreda	6	28	14	34	29	5	2	7	31	0	51	28	6	3	2	35	2	50	290
18	Th	St. Luke	6	30	14	45	28	5	0	8	37	1	37	24	6	31	3	5	3	25	291
19	F	[1827	6	31	14	56	28	4	58	9	40	2	24	22	7	3	3	40	4	0	292
20	S	Bat. of Navarino.	6	32	15	6	28	4	56	10	39	3	11	19	7	39	4	15	4	30	293
21	S	20TH S. aft. TRI- NITY. Battle of Trafal- gar, 1805	6	34	15	16	27	4	54	11	35	3	59	18	8	22	4	45	5	0	294
22	M	Alpha Aquila souths 5h. 35m. P.M.	6	36	15	25	27	4	52	Afternoon.	4	46	18	9	9	2	5	20	5	40	295
23	Tu	Beta Aquila souths 5h. 35m. P.M.	6	38	15	33	27	4	50	1	7	5	34	19	10	2	5	58	6	20	296
24	W	St. Crispin	6	40	15	41	26	4	47	2	18	6	21	20	11	2	6	45	7	10	297
25	Th	Alpha Cygni souths 6h. 16m. P.M.	6	42	15	48	26	4	45	2	47	7	55	26	0	5	7	45	8	30	298
26	F	Alpha Pegasi souths 5h. 33m. P.M.	6	46	15	59	25	4	41	3	16	8	43	30	1	11	9	10	9	50	299
27	S	21st S. aft TRIN.	6	48	16	4	25	4	39	3	40	9	31	34	2	20	10	27	11	0	300
28	S	St. Simon and St. Jude	6	50	16	8	25	4	37	4	5	10	20	39	3	32	11	35	11	59	301
29	M	Fomalhaut souths 5h. 12m. P.M.	6	51	16	11	24	4	36	4	34	11	12	45	4	47	No Tide.	0	23		302
30	Tu	Allhallows Eve	6	53	16	14	24	4	34	5	3	Morning.	48	6	4	1	25	1	44		303
31	W		6	53	16	14	24	4	34	5	3	Morning.	48	6	4	1	25	1	44		304

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

OCTOBER.

THE SUN is in the sign Libra till the 24th, on which day, at 0h. 16m. P.M., he enters the sign Scorpio (the Scorpion). On the 1st, he is 95,028,000 miles from the Earth.

On the 1st he rises 5° S. of E.; on the 11th, at E. by S.; and on the 31st, at E.S.E. He sets, on the 1st, at 5¼ S. of W.; on the 11th, at 3° S. of W. by S.; and on the 31st, at 3° S. of W.S.W. points of the horizon. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

The Moon is in the constellations Pisces and Cetus alternately till the 5th; in that of Taurus, on the 6th and 7th; in Gemini, on the 8th and 9th; in Cancer, on the 10th; in Leo, on the 11th, 12th, and 13th; in Virgo, from the 14th to the 16th; in Libra, on the 17th and 18th; in Ophiuchus, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st; in Sagittarius, on the 22nd and 23rd; in Capricornus, on the 24th; in Aquarius, on the 25th, 26th, and 27th; and in those of Pisces and Cetus alternately, till the end of the month.

She rises, on the 1st, at the same time as the Sun sets; from the 2nd to the 16th, during the night; from the 17th to the 30th, during the day; and at 29m. after the Sun sets on the 31st. She sets before the Sun rises on the 1st and 2nd; during the day, from the 3rd to the 17th; as the Sun sets, on the 18th; and during the night, from the 19th.

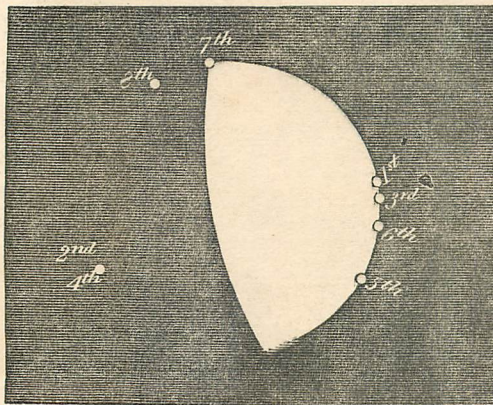
She is on the Equator the 2nd, the 14th, and the 29th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Saturn on the 1st; Uranus, on the 2nd; Mars, on the 7th; Jupiter, on the 18th; Venus, on the 13th; Mercury, on the 17th; Saturn, on the 29th; and Uranus, on the 30th.

She is full on the 2nd, new on the 16th, and full a second time on the 31st; but without an Eclipse at these times.

She occupies nearly the same place in the heavens during the night, which is common to the 5th and 6th, as she did on September 8th, and occults several stars. The Moon at the time is 19 days old; and the form of her illuminated portion is that called gibbous. The disappearances occur at the bright limb, and the re-appearances of the stars take place at the dark limb, at the places shown in the annexed diagram.

OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON, OCTOBER 5 AND 6.



	will disappear at the place marked	D. H. M.	and re-appear at the place marked	D. H. M.
48 Tauri	1 at 5 11 38 P.M.		2 at 6 0 42 A.M.	
Gamma Tauri	3 at 6 1 40 A.M.		4 at 6 2 53 "	
Theta 1 Tauri	5 at 6 6 24 "		8 at 6 7 28 "	
Theta 2 Tauri	6 at 6 6 30 "		7 at 6 7 24 "	

The star Aldebaran will be near the Moon at the time of the latter occultations. MERCURY is in the constellation Virgo till the 6th; in that of Libra, from the 7th to the 18th; and in that of Virgo, from the 19th.

He is an evening star till the 15th, and a morning star from the 25th. He sets on the 1st at 24m., and on the 20th at 4m., after the Sun sets. He rises on the 22nd at 1m., and on the 31st at 18m., before the Sun. He is not well situated for observation. He rises, on the 1st, at 2¼ S. of E.S.E.; on the 12th, at 6¼ S. of E.S.E.; on the 23rd, at the E.S.E.; and on the 31st, at 2¼ S. of E. by S. He sets near the W.S.W. at the beginning of the month. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 11th; is stationary among them on the 12th and 13th; and is moving westward from the 14th to the 31st. He is near the Moon on the 17th, and is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 24th.

VENUS is in the constellation Leo till the 16th; and in that of Virgo from the 17th.

She is a morning star throughout the month; and rises, on the 1st, at 2h. 36m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 4h. 1m. A.M.; at 7° N. of E. by N., on the 1st; at the E. by N., on the 12th; and at the E. points of the horizon, on the 27th. She is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month. She is in conjunction on the 21st; is near the Moon on the 13th, and Jupiter on the 9th; therefore, at this time, she occupies that position in the heavens, relative to the two stars Regulus and Beta Leonis, that Jupiter does on October 9, in the diagram showing the path of Jupiter this month, and inserted in the month of December.

MARS is in the constellation Taurus on the 1st; and in Gemini from the 2nd till the end of the month. He is visible throughout the greater part of the night; and rises, on the 1st, at 8h. 5m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 7h. 25m. P.M.: at 3¼ N. of N.E. by N., on the 1st; and at 6° N. of N.E. by N., on the last day. His times of southing are given below; his altitude above the horizon when he souths, on the 1st day, is 61¼; and on the last day, is 62¼. He sets at about 1h. P.M. He is moving slowly eastward among the stars, and is nearly stationary among them at the end of the month, as shown in the diagram inserted in December, which is in continuation of that in August. He is near the Moon on the 7th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo throughout the month.

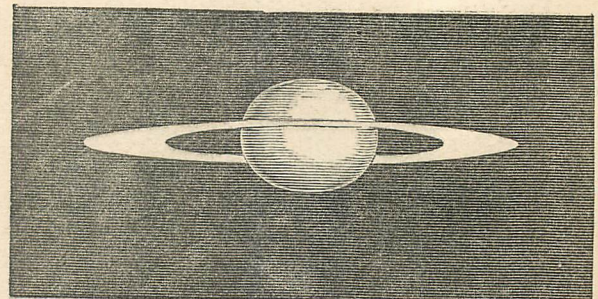
He is a morning star; and rises at 3h. 24m. A.M., on the 1st, at 2° N. of E. by N.; on the 20th, at 2h. 31m. A.M., at E. by N.; and on the last day, at 1h. 58m. A.M., at 1¼ S. of E. by N. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near Venus on the 9th, and the Moon on the 13th. See his path among the stars this month in the diagram in December.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Immersions of the 1st take place at the distance of less than one-half, and those of the 2nd at about one-half of the diameter from the Planet, to the right as seen in a non-inverting telescope, and to the left as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month.

He is visible throughout the greater part of the night; and rises a little S. of E., on the 1st, at 5h. 38m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 4h. 41m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 3h. 36m. P.M. His altitude at the time of southing, on the 1st day, is 39¼, increasing gradually to 40° on the last day. He moves slowly westward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 1st, and again on the 29th. His ring is now opened a little; and the following is his telescopic appearance this month.

TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE OF SATURN IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1849.



Scale, 20 seconds of arc to one inch.

URANUS rises about 3° N. of E. by N., on the 1st, at 6h. 4m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 4h. 5m. P.M. He souths on the 15th, at 11h. 54m. P.M., at an altitude of 47°. He moves slowly westward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 3rd, and again on the 30th. He is in opposition to the Sun on the 17th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.						OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.									
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of						Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.						
	Afternoon	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon	1st. Sat.			2nd. Sat.												
						Immersion.			Immersion.												
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D.	H.	M.	D.	H.	M.										
1	1 22	9 38	5 9	10 11	11 37	19	5	19 A.M.	13	4	40 A.M.	115 Tauri	5½	{	D. H. M. 7 5 49 A.M.	Bright					
6	1 17	9 41	4 58	9 55	11 16																Dark
11	1 6	9 44	4 46	9 39	10 55																Dark
16	0 44	9 47	4 33	9 23	10 34							27 Piscium	5	{	28 4 2 P.M.	Dark					
21	0 10	9 50	4 19	9 7	10 13																Bright
26	Morn.	9 53	4 4	8 50	9 52																Dark
31	10 55	9 56	3 47	8 34	9 32							29 Piscium	5	{	28 5 58 P.M.	Bright					
																					Dark
																					Bright
												A star in Arietis	4	{	28 6 54 P.M.	Bright					
																					Bright
																					Bright

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.					Days of the Month.	RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.											
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.						MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
						Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination South.
FULL MOON	..	..	2D. 5H. 33M. P.M.	1	14h. 2m	15° 31'	10h. 18m	11° 22'	5h. 49m	23° 17'	10h. 51m	8° 22'	0h. 20m	0° 45'	1h. 33m	9° 6'
LAST QUARTER	..	..	9 0 44 A.M.	6	14 17	17 12	10 41	9 22	5 57	23 27	10 55	8 0	0 18	0 54	1 33	9 2
NEW MOON	..	..	16 5 13 P.M.	11	14 26	17 59	11 4	7 15	6 5	23 36	10 58	7 38	0 17	1 3	1 32	8 57
FIRST QUARTER	..	..	24 7 4 A.M.	16	14 23	17 25	11 27	5 2	6 11	23 45	11 2	7 16	0 16	1 11	1 31	8 53
FULL MOON	..	..	31 4 47 P.M.	21	14 9	15 3	11 50	2 45	6 17	23 54	11 5	6 55	0 14	1 19	1 30	8 49
PERIGEE	..	..	6 10 0 A.M.	26	13 47	11 23	12 12	0 24	6 21	24 4	11 9	6 35	0 13	1 26	1 30	8 44
APOGEE	..	..	22 3 0 A.M.													

OCTOBER.—NUTTING IN THE WOODS.



Oft wandering by the woodland side
You hear the distant laughter sound ;
Or see the snow-white kirtles glide
Where the green hazels most abound :
All merry, noisy, nutters they,
Who through the tangle forests stray.—*The Country.*

ALL the wood-nuts gathered before the commencement of this month are worthless, when compared with those that still hang upon the hazels. Like ripe acorns, a jerk of the branch sends them dancing out of their vandyked cups, and they come tumbling down upon the moss, or silky forest-grass, like large dark brown beads, every one ripe, and almost ready to burst out of its shell, while each kernel is covered with a rich russet cloak.

As I last year entered, somewhat lengthily, into our country nutting excursions, I need only refer to the present engraving as illustrative of a scene before described. I have before dwelt upon the solemn associations awakened by the close of autumn. For although all its varied hues are beautiful to look upon, still it is a melancholy sight to witness the falling leaves; to see all that rendered summer so green and lovely, unhoused—drifted from their shady dwelling-places, leaving their old homes behind, naked and desolate; and wandering, as it were, houseless along the brown highways, over the wet and withered grass, or lying down to die in the wayside ditches. Who can walk abroad at such a season, without thinking of that change which must, in the end, take

place—without turning our thoughts to those who have gone before us, like companions who but set out earlier in the day, and gained the inn where we must all sleep, and retired to rest before we arrived?

In my "Year Book" I have described a forest scene, familiar to me from the days of my childhood; and as a railway is overthrowing these old wild-wood fastnesses, I shall transfer this picture of a spot that had stood unaltered for centuries, to the descriptive pages of this Almanack, conscious that I should but weaken my word-painting were I to alter my first sketch.

Acres of huge gorse bushes stretched to the very verge of this wild forest-land, many of them standing higher than the head of a tall man; while upon the edge of the woodland grew thousands of wild brambles, that had trailed over the low bushes, and formed a broad impenetrable hedge, so wide that several waggon, could the underwood have borne the weight, might have been driven over them abreast. This waste had never been cultivated since the dawning of creation. For miles around, there was no vestige of the hand of man. Here grew hawthorns so huge, old, grey, and weather-beaten, that they looked as if a score

of stems had been twisted into one, and become so hardened by time, that you might fancy they were bars of iron fused together so closely, that neither storm nor thunder had been able to rend them. Here and there uprose giant crab-trees, their gnarled and knotted stems overgrown with green and yellow moss, and long flaky lichens, which hung like ragged drapery from the boughs. Even the sun-stained fruit, when mellowed by the mists of October, was sour as vinegar. Some of the trunks were hollow and decayed; and looked like strange skeletons that had lived at a remote period of time, when man was not, so white, bleached, and monstrous were their forms; and from the decayed centre had, in some places, sprung up another tree, that waved green above the old desolation. Scattered at picturesque distances, we saw immense oaks, whose shadows stretched far and wide, and struck the mind with wonder, to behold such gigantic arms spread out with no other support than the iron body from which they sprung; while, to pace the length of a single bough, seemed like treading a long gallery. Many of these had, centuries ago, been struck by the thunder-bolt, or blackened by the red-armed lightning; yet lived on, in spite of the blaze which had burnt their branches and singed their ancient heads—standing like monuments that marked some old world which had, undated ages ago, passed away, and left the skeletons of those mighty giants to proclaim the bulk and vastness of that unrecorded era. And all around this wild and wooded wilderness of hoary trees, there extended a pathless waste of entangling under-wood, where the hazel and the hawthorn, the black bullace, and the armed sloe were blended, and matted, and twisted with the holly and the bramble and the prickly rose; while the woodbine climbed high over all, and, like a lady from her turret, looked out upon the wild and silent scene. It was only where the red fox, or the badger, or the daring hunter had forced a passage, that we were able to make our way along this bushy barrier. It recalled those graphic lines of Chaucer's, of a forest,

In which there dwelleth neither man nor beast,
With knotty, knurly, barren trees old,
Of stubby shape, and hideous to behold.

Above this vast covert of crooked branches, and spiked bushes, and trailing briars which seemed to have been struggling for ages for the mastery, there hovered scores of birds of prey—hawks of every species, dusky ravens, and horned owls that stared upon us from out the hollow trees at noon-day, and went sailing across the wild underwood, and between the ancient branches of the trees, like winged ghosts. And ever from the tangled thickets started some wild animal, the huge fox, or the grey badger, the savage wild cat and the climbing marten; and we sometimes disturbed the stoat as he fed upon a young hare, or drove the weasel from his banquet, and picked up the ringdove, warm and bleeding, that he was feeding upon; or saw the fierce eyes of the polecat glaring upon us, as if wondering why we had disturbed his solitary dominions. Great hairy bats were gliding by in the twilight, with their leathern wings outspread; and black water-rats made a hollow sound, as they plunged into the forest brook, and were soon lost in the dark water, or among the black and rotten leaves. As I painted the same scene in verse, in my youthful years, I here present my readers with the other picture.

Majest'c grandeur stamp'd that solemn scene.

For weary miles an outstretch'd forest lay,
But seldom trod by aught of mortal man.
Here nature sat enthroned in wild array,
Profusely deck'd with thorns and withering bay.
Here broad oaks threw afar their shady arms
O'er creeping brambles that did wildly stray
Around the trunks, where dark-leaved ivy swarms
And none the ruddy squirrel 'mid its play alarms.

The sul'en crab-tree flourish'd 'neath the beech:
Above, the sable pine did rear its head,
As if the silver clouds it fain would reach
So high these dark and branchy boughs were spread
The rattling cones wild winds profusely shed:
Luxuriant box stood robed in gloomy hue,
And cypress nodded o'er the glen's dark bed,
Where stately ash o'ertopp'd the bow-famed yew—
All burst in silent grandeur on th' astonish'd view.

The glens and glades, and dells were sprinkled round
With healing herbs and variegated flowers,
No bell or bud of which a lordling own'd;
No studied art beset those native bowers:
There nature's rugged breast bared to the showers,
Bore in its solitude the roses' bloom;
Where high the woodbines rear their painted towers,
There unsex'd violets 'mid the forest gloom
Blossom and die, and blow again above the tomb.

No habitation graced that rugged scene,
No pathway bore the track of man or steed;
Dark trees those dells from scorching sunbeams screen,
Where sharp-beak'd hawks and speckled songsters feed,
And diving otters shake the tufted reed.
No cultivation here smooth'd nature's face:
Nor waving corn, nor hedge-engirdled mead,
Across this savage scene the eye could trace:
It stood as when the Cymri here did lead the chase.

It has no doubt struck many, during an autumn ramble, how slowly and almost imperceptibly the changes of the months take place. The seasons themselves are striking enough, but to watch the slow progress by which they reach the different land-marks of the year, is like tracing the movement of the hand of a watch around the dial's face. Take a home garden, for instance—the smaller the better for observation—and recal the time when the first scarlet runner, nasturtium, sweet pea, or convolvulus sprang up, each a tiny speck of green above the mould. For days and days you can scarcely perceive them increase; the two little leaves grow larger by degrees; and then other tiny buds shoot out; and you are lost, between noting the expansion of the first, and the slow advance of the latter. Time rolls on, and they begin to twine and flower, one here, another there; you marvel why the one is so early, and the other so late. The first flowers attract your attention the most, and when the whole row is hung with bloom, you are anxious to find the first pod. It is the many stages through which vegetation passes that confuse observation, that induce us to take so little note of time, that causes autumn to steal upon us almost unawares. It is the same with the lengthening and shortening of the days: we see the hours, and not the minutes—the rock, but not the coral insect that was instrumental in raising it.

Nor less wonderful is the departure of the birds—which we find alluded to in the Old Testament—a proof that the habits of these winged voyagers were the same three thousand years ago. For in the Book of Jeremiah it is written, that "The stork in the heavens knoweth her appointed times: and the turtle, and the crane, and the swallow observe the time of their coming." In Mr. Couch's interesting work on Animal Instinct, of which I have, more than once, made favourable mention, I find the following original observations on the migration of birds:—"The time of the withdrawal of the swallows and martens is more irregular than that of their coming, and begins with the swift, which usually

takes its flight in the first or second week of August—the whole colony disappearing at once—the actual departure being preceded, for a few days, by exercises in flying, which seem to be practising in sport what they soon expect seriously to execute. They may be witnessed ascending in a spiral manner, and in very close phalanx, with even more than their usual rapidity, to a very great height; and having two or three times executed this movement, they suddenly sink down to their nests, after which, till the next day, they are no more to be seen. A remark often made—that the swallow tribe go away earliest in the warmest seasons—appears to be correct; but whether there be any physiological reason for this, is a matter of doubt. The principal cause of their early readiness for migration seems to be, that less interruption has been thrown in the way of the formation of the nest; and that there has been a greater abundance of insect food for the support of the young, which has accelerated their growth. In an unfavourable season in these respects, or when other causes have occurred to retard the maturity of the brood, the birds have not only been kept later, but in many instances the migratory instinct has grown sufficiently strong to overcome the force of parental affection, and the brood has been left to perish in the nest. To attend on a helpless young one, a single swift has been known to remain for a fortnight after the departure of its companions; and it is a frequent occurrence for the swallow to leave its brood to perish in the nest. As autumn approaches the swallows return to their nests, only for the sake of sleep, or as a convenient resting-place; and about the middle of September, after having shown their social disposition by assembling in companies, the earliest of them enter upon their autumnal migration, for which the proper season is the month of October. The flight to their winter's destination is less direct than their coming; so that it is not uncommon for small parties to appear again, long after they have seemed to have left us. Such is frequently the case in November."

The golden woodpecker laughs loud no more;
The pye no longer prates; no longer scolds
The saucy jay. Who sees the goldfinch now
The feather'd groundsel pluck, or hears him sing
In bower of apple blossoms perch'd? Who sees
The chimney-haunting swallow skim the pool,
And quately dip, or hears his early song
Twitter'd to dawning day. All, all are hush'd.—HUMDIS.

I have before pointed out the beautiful days that often come with the close of October: the fine blue middle-tint that hangs over the landscape is never seen to greater perfection in England than at this season of the year, when the weather is settled.

Those who love to ramble in the country will find as much amusement and instruction now, as they did in the midst of summer. For many a lovely nook, then hidden by masses of foliage, will now break in new beauty upon the eye. Weeds and flowers have run into seed; and great is the variety of forms they have assumed in this new stage of existence. Urn, and cup, and bell, and ball, and vessels of almost every shape, stand laden with the flowers of another summer; and but wait for the strong winds to blow open the doors of their garners, that they may scatter their seeds upon the earth. But these will soon pass away, and then, instead of the faded foliage of autumn, we shall see the hedges shorn of their withered leaves, and all bare and naked, saving where they are hung with hips and haws, or where the bright holly and the dark-leaved ivy throw over them a patch of green. We shall soon hear the wind howling about the house at night, like a hungry wolf, and trying the doors and window shutters, as if determined to enter; but finding no way there, getting into the chimney, and there bellowing, and moaning, and growling, as if it stuck fast. And while we listen to such sounds, we shall recal the darkness that reigns over the sea: the ships that are driven like autumn leaves before the mighty storm, of shoals, and sand, and wrecks, and huge promontories lashed by the mountainous waves, that roll away, and go moaning along the beaten beach, as if hungry for their prey. We shall think of desolate moors, and lonely roads, and solitary toll-gates that stand on the edges of treeless commons, or between the wild sweep of lonesome woods where groaning branches ever utter deep dolorous sounds, as if moaning for very pain—places where travellers have been way-laid, and where gibbet-posts stand, whose irons ever swing and creak. Spots that have—

A weird-like and eerie look.
As, if murder lurked anywhere, there it would be:
Ruinous, shadowy, fearsome, and lone,
Abounding with whispers that seem not its own,
Where sounds, not of earth, shake each grey old ash tree.





		SUN.										MOON.										DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.										HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
		SOUTHS.										SOUTHS.										Before Sunrise.			After Sunset.			At London Bridge.								
M	W	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Afternoon	After- noon.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	O'Clock. 2h. 4h. 6h.	Moon's Age.	O'Clock. 6h. 8h. 10h.	Morning.	Afternoon																			
1	Th	<i>All Saints</i>	6 56	16 16	24	4 32	5 37	0 6	52 ¹ / ₂	7 23				16																						
2	F	<i>All Souls.</i> Mich.	6 56	16 17	23 ³ / ₄	4 31	6 17	1 3	55 ¹ / ₂	8 40				17																						
3	S	Term begins.	6 59	16 17	23 ¹ / ₂	4 29	7 6	2 2	57 ³ / ₄	9 55				18																						
4	S	22ND S. aft. TRI- [NITY]	7 1	16 16	23	4 27	8 3	3 2	57	11 1				19																						
5	M	Gunpowder Plot	7 2	16 14	22 ³ / ₄	4 26	9 8	4 4	55 ³ / ₄	11 59				20																						
6	Tu	<i>St. Leonard</i>	7 4	16 12	22 ¹ / ₂	4 24	10 18	5 1	53 ¹ / ₄	Afternoon				21																						
7	W	Pomalhaut souths 7h. 42m. P.M.	7 6	16 8	22 ¹ / ₄	4 23	11 30	5 58	49 ¹ / ₂	1 25				22																						
8	Th	Alpha Pegasi souths 7h. 46m. P.M. [1841]	7 7	16 4	22	4 22	Morning.	6 50	45 ³ / ₄	1 57				23																						
9	F	P. of Wales born	7 9	15 59	21 ¹ / ₂	4 20	0 42	7 40	41 ¹ / ₂	2 27				24																						
10	S	Alpha Pegasi souths 7h. 37m. P.M.	7 10	15 53	21 ¹ / ₄	4 19	1 53	8 28	37 ¹ / ₄	2 52				25																						
11	S	23RDS. aft. TRIN.	7 12	15 47	21	4 18	3 2	9 15	32 ³ / ₄	3 15				26																						
12	M	Camb. Term div.	7 14	15 39	20 ³ / ₄	4 16	4 11	10 0	28 ³ / ₄	3 40				27																						
13	Tu	<i>Britius</i>	7 16	15 30	20 ¹ / ₂	4 14	5 19	10 46	25 ³ / ₄	4 5				28																						
14	W	Alpha Andromedæ souths 8h 24m. P.M.	7 18	15 21	20 ¹ / ₄	4 12	6 25	11 32	22 ¹ / ₄	4 32				29																						
15	Th	<i>Machutus</i>	7 20	15 11	20	4 11	7 29	Afternoon	19	5 1				1																						
16	F	Polaris souths 9h. 21m. P.M.	7 22	15 0	19 ³ / ₄	4 10	8 30	1 5	18 ³ / ₄	5 35				2																						
17	S	Hugh Bp. of Lin.	7 23	14 48	19 ¹ / ₂	4 9	9 28	1 53	18 ¹ / ₄	6 16				3																						
18	S	24TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 25	14 35	19 ¹ / ₄	4 8	10 19	2 40	18 ¹ / ₂	7 1				4																						
19	M	Ed. King & Mar.	7 27	14 22	19	4 7	11 5	3 28	19 ³ / ₄	7 52				5																						
20	Tu	Princess Royal b.	7 28	14 8	18 ³ / ₄	4 6	11 46	4 15	22	8 49				6																						
21	W	<i>St. Cecilia</i>	7 30	13 52	18 ¹ / ₂	4 5	Afternoon	5 2	24 ³ / ₄	9 50				7																						
22	Th	<i>St. Clement.</i> Old	7 31	13 37	18 ¹ / ₄	4 3	0 50	5 48	28 ¹ / ₂	10 54				8																						
23	F	Martinmas Day	7 33	13 20	18 ¹ / ₄	4 2	1 16	6 34	32 ¹ / ₂	Midnight.				9																						
24	S	25TH S. aft. TRIN	7 35	13 3	18	4 0	1 42	7 20	37	Morning.				10																						
25	S	Mich. Term ends.	7 36	12 44	17 ³ / ₄	3 58	2 8	8 8	41 ³ / ₄	1 9				11																						
26	M	Princess Mary	7 38	12 26	17 ¹ / ₄	3 57	2 23	8 57	46 ¹ / ₂	2 21				12																						
27	Tu	Adelaide born, 1833.	7 39	12 6	17 ¹ / ₂	3 56	3 0	9 49	50 ³ / ₄	3 34				13																						
28	W	Alpha Arietis souths 9h. 27m. P.M.	7 40	11 46	17 ¹ / ₄	3 55	3 30	10 45	54 ¹ / ₄	4 52				14																						
29	Th	Gamma Pegasi souths 7h. 30m. P.M.	7 42	11 25	17	3 54	4 6	11 43	56 ¹ / ₂	6 12				15																						
30	F	<i>St. Andrew</i>	7 44	11 3	16 ³ / ₄	3 54	4 53	Morning.	57 ¹ / ₄	7 29																										

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

NOVEMBER.

THE SUN is in the sign Scorpio till the 22nd, on which day, at 8h. 53m. A.M., he enters the sign Sagittarius (the Archer).

On the 1st, he is 94,213,000 miles from the Earth. He rises on the 1st, 7° S. of E.S.E.; and on the 26th at the S.E. by E.; he sets on the 1st, at 1° S. of W.S.W., and on the 26th, at the S.W. by W. points of the horizon. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

The Moon is in the constellation Taurus till the 3rd; in Gemini, on the 4th and 5th; in Cancer, on the 6th; in Leo, on the 7th, 8th, and 9th; in Virgo, from the 10th to the 13th; in Libra on the 14th and 15th; in Ophiuchus, on the 16th and 17th; in Sagittarius, on the 18th and 19th; in Capricornus, on the 20th; in Aquarius, on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd; in Pisces and Cetus alternately, till the 28th; and in Taurus, till the end of the month.

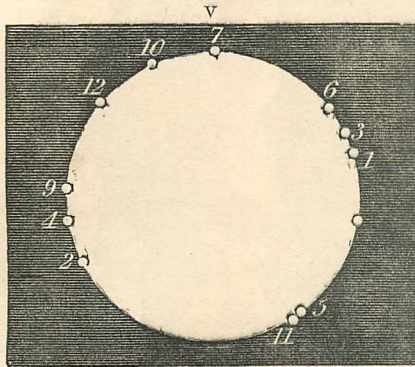
She rises after the Sun sets, and before he rises, or during the night, till the 14th; during the day, from the 15th to the 28th; and shortly after sunset, on the 29th and 30th. She sets during the day till the 13th, and during the night from the 14th.

She is on the Equator on the 11th and on the 25th. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

She is near Mars on the 4th; Jupiter, on the 9th; Venus, on the 12th; Mercury, on the 13th; Saturn, on the 25th; and Uranus, at midnight on the 26th. She is new on the 14th, and full on the 30th; but without an Eclipse at both times.

She occults several stars during the month, common to the 29th and 30th, and among them Aldebaran. She is full, and therefore both the disappearances and re-appearances take place at the bright edge of the limb, at the places shown in the annexed diagram in which V indicates the highest point of the Moon at the time of the occurrence of each phenomenon.

OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON, NOVEMBER 29 AND 30.

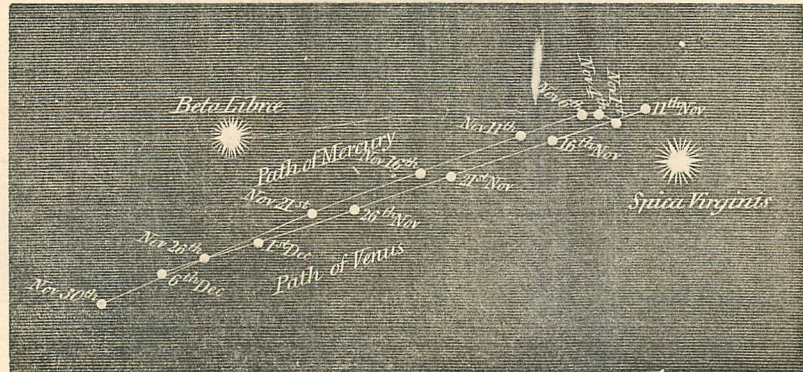


	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
48 Tauri { will disappear at the place marked }	1 at 29 6 2 P.M.	{ and re-appear at the place marked }	2 at 29 6 57 P.M.
Gamma Tauri "	3 at 29 7 43 "		4 at 29 8 46 "
75 Tauri "	5 at 30 0 12 A.M.		9 at 30 1 12 A.M.
Theta 1 Tauri "	6 at 30 0 18 "		7 at 30 0 52 "
A star in Taurus "	8 at 30 1 8 "		10 at 30 2 11 "
Aldebaran "	11 at 30 3 43 "		12 at 30 4 42 "

MERCURY is in the constellation Virgo till the 16th; and in that of Libra, from the 17th.

He is a morning star; and rises on the 1st, at 1h. 27m.; on the 7th, at 1h. 55m.; on the 8th, at 1h. 54m.; on the 15th, at 1h. 48m.; and on the 30th, at 5m. before the Sun rises. He is favourably situated for observation throughout the month. He rises on the 1st, at 1° S. of E. by S.; on the 20th, at E.S.E.; and on the 30th, at 8° S. of E.S.E. He is near the Moon on the 9th; and is at his greatest west elongation on the same day. His path among the stars is shown in the annexed diagram.

PATHS OF MERCURY AND VENUS, DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1849, WITH RESPECT TO THE FIXED STARS.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo till the 22nd; and in that of Libra, from the 23rd.

She is a morning star throughout the month; and rises on the 1st, at 4h. 5m. A.M.; and on the last day at 5h. 33m. A.M.; at 4° S. of E. on the 1st; at E. by S. on the 11th; and at E.S.E. on the 27th. She is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month; is near the Moon on the 12th. Her path among the stars during the month is shown in the preceding diagram.

MARS is in the constellation Gemini throughout the month.

He is visible throughout the night; and rises on the 1st, at 7h. 21m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 5h. 4m. P.M.; at 6° N. of N.E. by N. on the 1st; and at 7° N. of N.E. by N. on the 30th. His times of southing are given below; and his altitude above the horizon when he souths, on the 1st, is 62° ; and on the last day, is 64° . He sets at about 11h. A.M. He is stationary among the stars till the 16th; and is moving slowly westward from the 17th to the end of the month, as is shown in the diagram in December; and is near the Moon on the 4th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Leo throughout the month.

He is a morning star; and rises at 1h. 55m. A.M., on the 1st, at 1° S. of E. by N.; and on the last day, at 0h. 28m. A.M., at 3° S. of E. by N.; souths at an altitude of 44° on the 1st; decreasing to 43° on the last day. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 9th.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Immersions of the 1st take place at the distance of one-half; those of the 2nd, at that of one diameter, nearly; those of the 3rd take place at the distance of one and a half, and that of the 4th at two diameters from the Planet. The Emersion of the 4th takes place at the distance of one and a half diameter, nearly. All these phenomena occur on the right of the Planet, as seen through a telescope which does not invert, and to the left as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month. He is an evening star, and rises between 1h. and 3h. P.M. He souths at an altitude of 40° on the 1st; and of 40° on the last day. He sets on the 1st, at 3h. 24m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 1h. 24m. A.M.; at a point a little S. of W. He moves slowly westward till the 15th; and is stationary among the stars during the remainder of the month.

URANUS rises about 2° N. of E. by N., on the 1st, at 4h. 0m. P.M.; souths on the 15th, at 9h. 47m. P.M., at an altitude of 47° ; and he sets on the 1st, at 5h. 36m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 3h. 37m. A.M. He is moving slowly westward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 26th.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.					OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury. Morning.	Venus. Morning.	Mars. Morning.	Jupiter. Morning.	Saturn. Afternoon	Eclipses of					Names of Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
						1st Sat.		3rd Sat.							
						Immersion. I.		Emersion. E.							
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	H. M.						
1	10 50	9 57	3 44	8 31	9 28	4 3 35 A.M. I.		22 2 45 A.M. E.		3 Cancri	6	{ 5 11 45 P.M. 6 0 25 A.M.	Bright Dark		
6	10 36	10 0	3 26	8 14	9 7	11 5 28 A.M. I.		29 3 19 A.M. I.							
11	10 33	10 3	3 6	7 57	8 47	27 3 43 A.M. I.		29 6 42 A.M. E.							
16	10 38	10 7	2 45	7 40	8 26					29 Capricorni	5	{ 21 7 29 P.M. 21 7 45 P.M.	Dark Bright		
21	10 46	10 11	2 22	7 23	8 6										
26	10 57	10 15	1 58	7 6	7 46										
30	11 6	10 19	1 38	6 52	7 30					115 Tauri	5½	{ 30 9 35 P.M. 30 10 41 P.M.	Bright Dark		
For occultation on Nov. 29, and 30, see above.															

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON;													
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth, in each Lunation.													
LAST QUARTER .. 7d. 8h. 23m. A.M.													
NEW MOON .. 14 9 13 P.M.													
FIRST QUARTER .. 23 2 24 A.M.													
FULL MOON .. 30 3 25 A.M.													
PERIGEE .. 2 11 P.M.													
APOGEE .. 18 9 P.M.													

Days of the Month.	RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.											
	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination North.	Right Ascension	Declination South.	Right Ascension	Declination North.
1	13h. 33m	8° 5'	12h. 39m	2° 27'	6h. 25m	24° 17'	11h. 13m	6° 11'	0h. 12m	1° 33'	1h. 29m	8° 39'
6	13 38	7 51	13 2	4 49	6 27	24 29	11 16	5 53	0 11	1 39	1 28	8 35
11	13 55	9 24	13 25	7 10	6 27	24 43	11 19	5 36	0 10	1 43	1 27	8 31
16	14 20	11 51	13 49	9 27	6 25	24 59	11 21	5 19	0 9	1 46	1 27	8 27
21	14 48	14 35	14 12	11 40	6 22	25 16	11 24	5 4	0 9	1 49	1 26	8 24
26	15 18	17 15	14 37	13 45	6 17	25 33	11 26	4 50	0 9	1 50	1 26	8 21

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON; And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth, in each Lunation.

	7d. Sh. 23m. A.M.
LAST QUARTER ..	14 9 13 P.M.
NEW MOON ..	23 2 24 A.M.
FIRST QUARTER ..	30 3 25 A.M.
FULL MOON ..	2 11 P.M.
PERIGEE ..	18 9 P.M.
APOGEE ..	26 15 18

Days of the Month.	RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.											
	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.
1	13h. 33m.	8° 5'	12h. 39m.	2° 27'	6h. 25m.	24° 17'	11h. 13m.	6° 11'	0h. 12m.	1° 33'	1h. 29m.	8° 39'
6	13 38	7 51	13 2	4 49	6 27	24 29	11 16	5 53	0 11	1 39	1 28	8 35
11	13 55	9 24	13 25	7 10	6 27	24 43	11 19	5 36	0 10	1 43	1 27	8 31
16	14 20	11 51	13 49	9 27	6 25	24 59	11 21	5 19	0 9	1 46	1 27	8 27
21	14 48	14 35	14 12	11 40	6 22	25 16	11 24	5 4	0 9	1 49	1 26	8 24
26	15 18	17 15	14 37	13 45	6 17	25 33	11 26	4 50	0 9	1 50	1 26	8 21

NOVEMBER.—GUY FAWKES DAY.



Please to remember the Fifth of November
Gunpowder treason and plot;
I know no reason why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot.—Old Ditty.

NOVEMBER brings with it Guy Fawkes Day, which, twenty years ago, in the country, was a common holiday; and not to burn Guy at night, and spend all the money got during the day in fireworks, would in our boyish days have been considered treason by the worthy parson, churchwardens, overseers, and every other "good man and true." We had some very misty notions about Guy Fawkes from history so much as the Common Prayer Book, which, although it taught us to pray for our enemies, said not a word against the burning of Guy Fawkes; indeed, this we considered the most important proof of our paying "due observance" to the day. Our notions of the aforesaid Guy were also very peculiar. We believed him to have been a very ugly sort of a fellow, with a long red nose, who levied black-mail, in his day, by being carried about from house to house, with a lantern in one hand, a match in the other, and we knew not how many pounds of gunpowder in his pockets; and that people gave him money to prevent him from blowing up their houses; further, that he at last grew so bold as to beg of Parliament, which was, in itself, a not very uncommon act; that they either refused to relieve him on the spot, or to grant him a pension; and that he threatened to serve King, Lords, and Commons, as he had threatened to serve all other liege

subjects, and at last became so overbearing that all London rose up against him as one man; that he was banished the kingdom, and then burnt in effigy for having been found prowling about the vaults, into which no end of small casks had been smuggled; that some said they contained gunpowder; others that Guy knew as well as the members themselves what the concealed casks contained; and that a nose like his would never have been allured into such places had there been nothing better than gunpowder. Then the plot grew too thick for our boyish comprehension; there was something about hush-money, trap-doors, drinking-cups, honourable members slipping one after another into the aforesaid vaults, and not able to get out again without assistance, and, finally, that they were blocked up; and in the course of time Bellamy opened, who still carries on a snug business. That the whole affair obtained the name of the Gunpowder Plot, through the train that was laid to get at the barrels and quench the spark which the dry orations of King James created in every throat. As to the story about burning, torturing, and so on, of course we knew better than to believe a word about the matter—well aware that in a Christian country, like England, such brutal scenes could never take place. Having thus settled these "Historic Doubts" to our satisfaction, of course

We knew no reason why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot:

so at once commenced making a Guy, or sometimes stole one ready-made, which saved much trouble, for it was useless for the weaker party to offer resistance at a season when bon-fires, crackers, squibs, and powder in every form, were blazing and banging all over the country. It was a day dedicated to Invasion, and not a scarecrow could be found in the fields or gardens for miles around. Nor was this all: we established a committee of enquiry, days before this great annual firing, and they went round to see that all gates, fences, railings, posts, &c., were firmly secured, according to statute passed. They were entitled to bring away all that were loose, decayed, or broken, or could by any lawful means be torn off, up, or down. These were offered up at the shrine of Guy on the evening of the Fifth of November, and for this purpose were hoarded up in such places as the secret committee in their wisdom chose to appoint to be used for the "due observance of the day."

The best receipt we knew for making a Guy was, first to steal a coat—if nearly new, so much the better, it gave Guy a more respectable look. The village tailor was generally in the secret, and he so cut, altered, and trimmed it, after having cabbaged a waistcoat out of the skirts, that we could safely defy the original owner to swear to it again, even when it had undergone the most rigid examination. A pair of good leather breeches also formed a capital accompaniment to the above, and these we generally obtained by "hook or crook." Top-boots were then pretty plentiful; and as the old shoemaker had generally five or six pairs on hand to repair, all round-toed, and as like as two cherries, it was difficult to discover whose were lost. Hats were plentiful as blackberries, as every high wind blew off one or two at the church corner, and the best was invariably selected. We just knew enough of the laws to understand that horses, waggon, &c., were in cases of emergency to be pressed into service in the King's name; and, under the same plea of loyal necessity, we stuck at nothing for the honour of our country, and the celebration of the Fifth of November. Pity 'tis, 'tis true, but sometimes a real living Guy has been detected in the fact of wearing the lost boots, unmentionables, &c., and been compelled to throw down his matches and lantern and run for it, and that our friends have been mulct to the full value aforesaid. But such mishaps rarely betel us.

Oh! what blazing and firing was there in those good old times: men drank and swore beautifully in those days, to prove their dislike to Popery; and what if a rocket now and then alighted upon a corn-rick, and burnt up a few scores of quarters of wheat, was it not a proof that in our very zeal we neither respected persons nor property? Then what good we did for trade, breaking every window that was not illuminated, without inquiring whether the indwellers were Catholics or Protestants!

It was one of those blessed days in which all loyal subjects who had allowed their nails to grow to a goodly length were expected to scratch, bite, shout, and blaze away at everything they came near. Alas! there are now "most biting laws" against the celebration of Guy Fawkes day. Into that very House which was all but blown up little more than two centuries ago, men of all sects and creeds are admitted; there is now no burning, no drawing, nor quartering in the name of religion; no traitors' heads grinning on London-bridge; no burning in the bars of Smithfield. Men seem to have lost that spirit of sweet savageness, and to have laid aside the charms of former cruelty. Poor Guy is himself doomed to be numbered amongst the things that were; and the time will come when the remembrance of Gunpowder Treason, and the martyrdom of Charles I., will not be found in our "Forms" of Prayer, nor be allowed to mingle with that holier incense which is alone worthy of ascending to Heaven. We shall then leave "the dead past to bury its dead," and destroy every trace of those old barriers that have so long separated man from his brother man.

As painters of the past, we have glanced at an old custom which is now fast sinking into desuetude, and which, excepting as an amusement for children, will ere long die away—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

But we must now turn to where

Autumn rends her yellow hair,
And weeps the more that tears were vain to save;
The sorrowful robin sings her requiem,
And strews her hearse with all his favourite leaves;
The sprightly lark somewhere in silence grieves
And will not chant his wonted matin hymn;
And Nature, her proud mother, mourns her child
With that unutter'd grief which is not soon beguiled.—WEBBE.

Although the close of autumn is somehow associated with the images of decay and death, there are fitful and cheerful glimmerings thrown around, "like hope upon a death-bed;" and we feel that this natural destruction of the remains of the beautiful summer is necessary for the production of another and a fairer spring. There is also something pleasant in the appearance of the well-filled rick-yards and barns; and we seem armed against the coming winter when we look upon the stores that have been gathered from field, orchard, and garden, and garnered against the time when "the wind and rain beat dark December." Nor do we seem to care so much to see the leaves rotting and the long grass withering, and the low leaden-coloured sky ever raining, in these busy autumnal days, as we should in the almost nightless season of summer; the lengthened darkness brings with it the very necessity that confines us within doors.

There is something very beautiful about the great high heath-covered hills in autumn, that come dipping down with crimson-clad feet into the open valleys. Scott used to say that he could never live unless he set his foot upon the heath once a year; and we know few spots that retain their dry elasticity so long as those on which the heath-bell waves; for, when all besides is saturated with moisture and decay, these are comparatively dry. Some such spot we once knew that ran high above the surrounding woods; for saving one narrow field-like entrance, woods encircled it every way. It had never been cultivated within the memory of man, nor probably ever had been. When the ling and heather had withered on the more open hills, here it remained as fresh as if it had but just bloomed; and even when December began to draw the curtain upon the close of the year, we have still found it as fresh as it seemed to have been in other places a month or two before.

The following humorous description of autumn was written between two and three hundred years ago, but by whom we know not, though we think it is attributed to Decker:—"Autumn's the barber of the year, that shears bushes, hedges, and trees; the ragged prodigal, that consumes all and leaves himself nothing; the arrantest beggar amongst all the four quarters; and never well, but always troubled with the falling sickness. This murderer of Spring, this thief to Summer, and bad companion to Winter, seems to come in according to his old custom, when the sun sets, like Justice, with a pair of scales in his hand, weighing no more hours to the day than he does to the night, as he did before in his vernal progress, when he rode on a ram. But this bald-pated Autumn will be seen walking up and down groves, meadows, fields, parks, and pastures, blasting of fruits, and beating leaves from their trees. When common highways shall be strewn with boughs in mockery of Summer and in triumph of her death."

The resemblance the seasons bear to life, death, and resurrection, have not escaped the eyes of our old poets. They ever compared spring to youth; the

blowing and blossoming of the buds and flowers to the promises of future manhood, the fruits which the full Summer would bring forth and ripen. Autumn, which brought perfection, was also the forerunner of dissolution; the same which caused the rose to shed its beauty as soon as it was attained, for such was ever Nature's course. Winter was that sleep in the grave which awoke to life in another spring, whose flowers were eternal, and where there was neither death nor change again. Even so far back as the days of Homer, we find the decay of autumn suggesting these very images, nor have we in any way been able to improve upon them. Shelley seems to have felt this when he said:—

Oh! wild West Wind! thou breath of Autumn's being—
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead
Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing;
Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red—
Pestilence-stricken multitudes. Oh! thou
Who chariotest to their dark and wintry bed
The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low,
Each like a corpse within its grave, until
Thine azure sister of the spring shall blow
Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill
(Driving sweet buds, like flocks, to feed in air)
With living hues and odours plain and hill!
Make me thy lyre even as the forest is:
What if my leaves are falling like its own:
The tumult of the mighty harmonies
Will take from both a deep autumnal love,
Sweet though in sadness! Be thou spirit-flerce.
My spirit, be thou me, impetuous one!
Drive my dead thoughts over the universe,
Like wither'd leaves, to quicken a new birth.

How wild and solemn must have been the autumns in our primitive old English forests, three or four thousand years ago! when there was no human voice to cheer the solitude; but, according to the earliest records we possess, nothing but bears, wolves, and the oxen with the high prominence. The badger is another of that ancient family, which has outlived the mammoth and the mastodon; for we find his fossil remains side by side with these huge and extinct monsters. He is the only representative of our cave bear, and seems not to have bated a jot of bruin's valour. It appears that in the present day the badgers migrate from one part to another in large companies, sometimes numbering from ten to seventeen; that they move along in the night, rank and file, in seemingly and marching order, placing their young ones in the centre. In one or two instances, when they have been confronted, both man and dog were compelled to beat a retreat.

The favourite haunt of the badger is the gloomy centre of a wood, or that part where the thicket is impassable; possessing long powerful claws, he there digs for himself a deep den, forming a somewhat winding and intricate entrance, into which he works his long hardy body, not caring a straw for rubbing his coarse skin against the outer brambles or rugged sides of his subterranean dwelling, so long as he has but plenty of room to turn himself when he reaches his inner chamber. Here he couches all day long, and never ventures out to feed until late in the evening, or late in the night. Though dull, heavy, and lazy, it is, upon the whole, a harmless brute, doing no injury to any one, but feeding upon roots, pig-nuts, acorns, beech-mast, and occasionally a long-tailed mouse or two, or even a few frogs or insects when nothing better may be had. Some naturalists assert that he is a great destroyer of wasps'-nests, and feeds upon the larvae. He is, beyond doubt, the strongest jawed animal of his size in Britain, and, even when baited by half-a-dozen dogs, if he once chances to get fairly hold, woe be to the assailant. When taken young he is said to be easily tamed, and to become as attached and affectionate as a dog; ready, also, to follow his master anywhere. Glad we are that the cruel custom of badger-baiting is now abandoned. Almost every inn-yard in the country had, a few years ago, its badger-tub, or box, in which dog and badger were mutually tortured, the dog which seized the badger the oftenest, and still retained his hold each time he went in until he was drawn forth by the tail, when the badger was made to release its hold, and the dog again sent in, according to its "bottom," was the winner. The method used for capturing the badger is by placing an open sack, with a running noose, in the earth where he harbours. This is done while he is out feeding. When all is prepared, a loud hooting and whistling is made, and half a dozen dogs are also turned loose. The badger, alarmed, hurries off home, rushes into the sack that closes behind him, and is regularly "sacked."



THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

DECEMBER.

THE SUN is in the sign Sagittarius till the 21st, at 9h. 42m., at which time he enters the sign Capricornus (the Goat), and Winter commences. On the 1st he is 93,628,000 miles from the Earth.

He rises, on the 1st, at 1^h 3^m S. of S.E. by E.; on the 11th, at 3^h 1^m; on the 21st, at 4^h; and on the 31st, at 3^h 1^m S. of the same point of the horizon. He sets on the same days respectively at 1^h 3^m, at 3^h, at 4^h, and at 3^h 1^m S. of the S.W. by W. points of the horizon. His time of southing, in common clock time, and his height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

THE MOON is in the constellation Gemini on the 1st and 2nd; in Cancer, on the 3rd and 4th; in Leo, on the 5th and 6th; in Virgo, from the 7th to the 10th; in Libra, on the 11th and 12th; in Ophiuchus, on the 13th and 14th; in Sagittarius, on the 15th, 16th, and 17th; in Capricornus, on the 18th; in Aquarius, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st; in Pisces and Cetus alternately, till the 25th; in Taurus, on the 26th, 27th, and 28th; in Gemini, on the 29th and 30th; and in Cancer, on the 31st.

She rises during the night till the 14th; during the day, from the 15th to the 28th; and after the Sun sets, on the 29th, 30th, and 31st. She sets during the day till the 16th; during the night, from the 17th to the 29th; and shortly after sunrise, on the 30th and 31st.

She is on the Equator on the 8th and on the 23rd. Her time of southing, in common clock time, and her height in degrees at the same time, are given for every day on the opposite page.

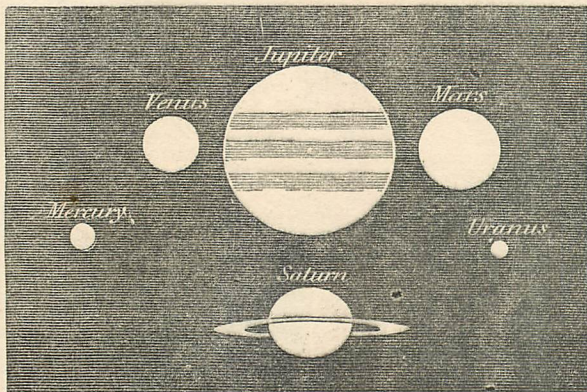
She is near Mars on the 1st; Jupiter, on the 7th; Venus, on the 12th; Mercury, on the 14th; Saturn, on the 22nd; Uranus, on the 24th; and Mars, on the 28th.

She is new on the 14th, and full on the 29th; but without an Eclipse at both times.

MERCURY is in the constellation Libra on the 1st; he is moving on the boundaries of those of Scorpio and Ophiuchus, from the 2nd to the 14th; and in that of Sagittarius from the 15th to the end of the year.

He is a morning star at the beginning, and an evening star towards the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 56m., and on the 15th at 1m., before the Sun rises. He sets on the 16th at 2m., and on the 31st at 40m., after the Sun sets. He is generally unfavourably situated during the month for observation. He rises on the 4th at the S.E. by E.; and he sets on the last day at 5^h 3^m S. of S.W. by W., points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month; and is near the Moon on the 14th, and is in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 19th.

RELATIVE TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF THE PLANETS, IN DECEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

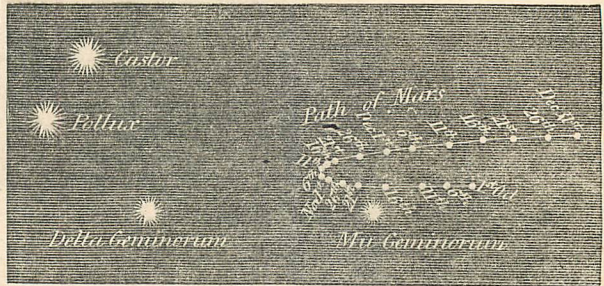
VENUS is in the constellation Libra till the 10th; in that of Scorpio, from the 11th to the 14th; and in that of Ophiuchus, from the 15th.

She is a morning star throughout the month; and rises at 5h. 37m. A.M., on the 1st; and at 7h. 3m. A.M., on the 31st; at 2^h 3^m S. of S.E. on the 1st; at the S.E. by E., on the 18th; and at 3^h 3^m S. of S.E. by E., on the 31st. She is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month; and is near the Moon on the 12th. Her telescopic appearance towards the end of the month is small, and almost circular, as is shewn in the preceding cut.

MARS is in the constellation Gemini till the 10th; and in that of Taurus, from the 11th to the end of the month.

He is visible throughout the night; and rises, on the 1st, at 4h. 59m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 2h. 1m. P.M.; at 7^h 3^m N. of N.E. by N. on the 1st, and at 8^h 3^m N. of N.E. by N. on the last day. His times of southing are given below; and his altitude above the horizon when he souths, on the 1st, is 64^h, and on the last day is 65^h. He sets towards the end of the month as the Sun rises. He is moving westward among the stars (as shewn in the annexed diagram); and is near the Moon on the 1st and 28th. He is in opposition to the Sun on the 18th.

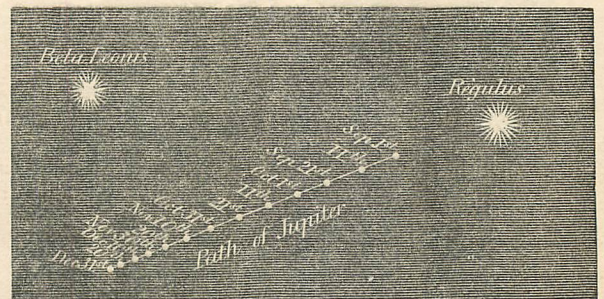
PATH OF MARS, DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

JUPITER is in the constellation Virgo throughout the month. He is a morning star; rises at 0h. 24m. A.M., on the 1st, at 4^h S. of E. by N.; and on the last day, at 10h. 34m. P.M., at 5^h S. of E. by N. Souths at 43^h on the 1st, decreasing to 42^h on the last day; and sets at about noon. He is moving eastward among the stars throughout the month, but is almost stationary among them towards the end of the month, as is shewn in the annexed diagram, shewing his path in the heavens during the months of October, November, and December; and it will be seen that his motion is directly from Regulus to a point situated 12^h S. of Beta Leonis. He is near the Moon on the 7th.

PATH OF JUPITER, IN THE MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1849.



Scale, 12 degrees to one inch.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The Immersions of the 1st take place at the distance of one-half, and those of the 2nd at that of one diameter from the Planet, to the right as seen through a non-inverting telescope, and to the left as seen through an inverting telescope.

SATURN is in the constellation Cetus throughout the month. He is an evening star; souths at an altitude of 40^h nearly on every day; and sets at a point a little S. of W., at 1h. 20m. A.M., on the 1st; at 0h. 27m. P.M., on the 15th; and at 11h. 27m. P.M., on the last day. He is nearly stationary among the stars during the month, and is near the Moon on the 22nd.

URANUS souths on the 15th, at 7h. 47m. P.M., at an altitude of 47^h nearly on every day. He sets, on the 1st, at 3h. 33m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 1h. 32m. A.M. He is nearly stationary among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 31st.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					JUPITER'S SATELLITES.						OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.					
	Mercury.		Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Eclipses of						Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Stars.	At the dark or bright limb of the Moon.	
	Morn- ing.	Even- ing.	Morn- ing.	Even- ing.	After- noon.	1st Sat.			2nd Sat.								
						Immersion.			Immersion.								
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	Rho Leonis	4	{	D. H. M.	Bright	
6	11 8	10 20	1 33	6 48	7 26	4 5 37 A. M.	9 1 9 A. M.								5 10 40 P. M.		
11	11 21	10 25	1 5	6 31	7 7	13 1 58 A. M.	16 3 43 A. M.								5 11 34 P. M.		Dark
16	11 34	10 31	0 38	6 13	6 47	20 3 51 A. M.	23 6 17 A. M.								23 10 51 P. M.		Dark
21	11 49	10 38	0 10	5 55	6 28	27 5 44 A. M.									23 11 23 P. M.		Bright
26	Aftern.	10 44	Aftern.	5 36	6 8	29 0 13 A. M.									25 4 4 P. M.		Dark
31	0 19	10 51	11 8	5 17	5 49							A star in Arietis	4	{	25 4 46 P. M.	Bright	
	0 35	10 59	10 41	4 58	5 31										30 5 58 P. M.	Bright	
												3 Cancri	6	{	30 6 48 P. M.	Dark	

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.												RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND DECLINATIONS OF THE PLANETS.																							
	And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee), or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.												MERCURY.				VENUS.				MARS.				JUPITER.				SATURN.				URANUS.			
	LAST QUARTER.	NEW MOON.	FIRST QUARTER.	FULL MOON.	Perigee.	Apogee.	Perigee.	Apogee.	Perigee.	Apogee.	Perigee.	Apogee.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.	Right Ascension.	Declination South.	Right Ascension.	Declination North.								
													15h. 49m.	19° 40'	15h. 1m.	15° 43'	6h. 11m.	25° 49'	11h. 29m.	4° 38'	0h. 8m.	1° 50'	1h. 25m.	8° 18'												
1	15h. 49m.	19° 40'	15h. 1m.	15° 43'	6h. 11m.	25° 49'	11h. 29m.	4° 38'	0h. 8m.	1° 50'	1h. 25m.	8° 18'	6	16 21	21 44	15 26	17 30	6 4	26 4	11 30	4 27	0 8	1 49	1 25	8 15											
6	16 21	21 44	15 26	17 30	6 4	26 4	11 30	4 27	0 8	1 49	1 25	8 15	11	16 55	23 24	15 52	19 6	5 55	26 17	11 32	4 17	0 8	1 47	1 24	8 13											
11	16 55	23 24	15 52	19 6	5 55	26 17	11 32	4 17	0 8	1 47	1 24	8 13	16	17 29	24 29	16 18	20 29	5 47	26 26	11 34	4 9	0 9	1 44	1 24	8 12											
16	17 29	24 29	16 18	20 29	5 47	26 26	11 34	4 9	0 9	1 44	1 24	8 12	21	18 3	25 5	16 44	21 37	5 38	26 30	11 35	4 3	0 9	1 39	1 24	8 11											
21	18 3	25 5	16 44	21 37	5 38	26 30	11 35	4 3	0 9	1 39	1 24	8 11	26	18 39	25 6	17 11	22 29	5 30	26 32	11 36	3 59	0 10	1 34	1 24	8 10											
26	18 39	25 6	17 11	22 29	5 30	26 32	11 36	3 59	0 10	1 34	1 24	8 10	31	19 14	24 29	17 38	23 5	5 22	26 30	11 36	3 57	0 11	1 28	1 24	8 10											

DECEMBER.—CHRISTMAS WAITS.



Good Christians, rise; this is the morn
When Christ, the Saviour, He was born;
All in a stable so lowly,
At Bethlehem, in Galilee.
Rejoice! our Saviour He was born
On Christmas-day in the morning—*Old Christmas Carol.*

Hush! hush! These are the village waits, not your noisy musicians, whose clamour arouses a whole neighbourhood, but those who bring no other instruments excepting their voices—who go from hamlet to hamlet all night long, chanting such carols as our pious forefathers loved to listen to in those good old days when Christmas was not only a holiday, but a holy time. Let us uplift the corner of the white blind gently. Although they hope that all are listening, they would but feel uneasy to know that they were overlooked. We shall be very glad to see them on boxing-day, when they will come round and simply announce themselves as the waits; then we can reward them for the pleasure they have afforded us. A few old-fashioned doors will be opened, where they will be cheered with elder wine, spiced ale, and plum cake; they know the houses. There are those who make a point of sitting up to receive them; cold although the night may be, they will not lack bodily comfort. How sweetly the moonlight sleeps upon the untrodden snow; it kept falling until twelve o'clock; and then the queen of the stars came out adorned with more than her usual brilliancy. It is just such a Christmas morning as a lover of old customs would crave for—cold, frosty, and bright. How the snow will “crunch” beneath the feet

at daylight! But they are gone; you can just hear their voices at intervals, sounding faintly over the snow, when the red cock that crows from the far-off farm is silent, for they are now singing at the lonely grange beside the wood. The old farmer who resides there would never fancy that it was Christmas unless he heard the waits. Rumour, who is a slanderer, does say that when they have left his old-fashioned parlour they never again sing in tune—that bass is heard in place of tenor, and treble gets over his part before the others have well begun—and that, when complaints are made the next morning, the only answer is, “Christmas comes but once a year.”

Then comes the church service in the morning; nobody either thinks or cares about the sermon on that day—all feel good enough without it. No! their thoughts are with the friends they hope to meet; they need no other sermon than the snow which lies on the graves of those who are still dear to them in memory—the dead, who, perhaps, only the year before, were guests at the Christmas board—those whom

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,

The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to lisp their sire's return,
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

In vain are the beloved portraits decorated with holly and ivy: the same calm faces look down upon the Christmas festival, but the eyes no longer brighten, neither do the lips move, nor will the merry laugh that rung like music over the scene ever more be heard.

High up the vapours fold and swim,
Above him floats the twilight dim,
The place he knew forgetteth him;—TENNYSON.

They mistake Christmas who state that it is a merry day; on the contrary, a Christmas dinner is more often a solemn assemblage of those who live, and whose thoughts are occupied with those who have departed. In England, with but few exceptions, it seldom consists of more than members of the family. If a friend drops in it is generally one who has no other friends to meet; or if he has, they lie too far and wide away for him to visit them. It is a time when grandchildren and grandfathers and grandmothers meet together; when old times and old scenes are recalled; when the hidden household gods are brought forth; and the young bride, often for the first time, meets the family of which she is now a member; when old crusty men, who after much persuasion have at last agreed to attend, shovel off the cold crust from their hearts, as the good old port comforts them, go home, and alter their will, and sleep more comfortably after it than they have ever done for years before; when hands which have never been clasped for many a long day lie enfolded within each other, and marvel however they came to be separated. No! Christmas is not a merry season; it makes a man think of how few such days he can remember, and how few more he can hope to see. He begins to think that a brief year of days spent so happily, dating from the time he first slept an infant in the cradle, and but kept up once a week, would tell him that he had lived beyond half a century; and he feels no wish to number as many more, although he knows that

In the grave there is no company.

"From the first introduction of Christianity into these islands," says the Book of Christmas, "the period of the Nativity seems to have been kept as a season of festival, and its observance recognised as a matter of state. The Witenagemots of our Saxon ancestors were held under the solemn sanction and beneficent influence of the time; and the series of high festivities established by the Anglo-Saxon kings appear to have been continued with yearly increasing splendour and multiplied ceremonies under the monarchs of the Norman race. From the Court the spirit of revelry descended, by all its thousand arteries, throughout the universal frame of society, visiting its furthest extremities and most obscure recesses, and everywhere exhibiting its action, as by so many pulses, upon the traditions, and superstitions, and customs which were common to all or peculiar to each. The pomp and ceremonial of the Royal observance were imitated in the splendid establishments of the more wealthy nobles, and far more faintly reflected from the diminished state of the petty baron. The revelries of the baronial castle found echoes in the hall of the old manor-house, and these were again repeated in the tapestried chamber of the country magistrate, or from the sanded parlour of the village inn: merriment was everywhere a matter of public concernment, and the spirit which assembles men in families now congregated them by districts then."

Such, indeed, was the merry Christmas of the olden time. The whole wide country was then filled with rejoicing: in the bannered hall the long tables were spread; on the ancient armour and the antlers of the wild deer, holly, and ivy, and mistletoe were placed; the huge yule log went roaring up the wide old-fashioned chimneys, and cold although it might be without, all was warm and comfortable within. The large wassail-bowl—a load of itself when full—was passed round, and each one before he drank, stirred up the rich spices with a sprig of rosemary, while the cooks (says an old writer) "looked as black and greasy as a Welsh porridge-pot." Roast goose and roast beef, minced pies, the famous boar's head, plum porridge, and plum pudding, together with no end of sausages, and drinks of every description, but, chief of all, the "bowl of lamb's wool," seemed to have formed the staple luxuries of an old Christmas dinner. But even more than two hundred years ago the cry was raised, "Is old, good old Christmas gone?—nothing but the hair of his good, grave, old head and beard left!"

Were I to paint a December day, such as I wandered out in last year (1847), it would read more like a description of spring than winter. The sky was intensely blue, and the sun shone with a summer brightness. The wide Downs which lie to the left of Sanderstead seemed to bask in the sunlight of May. On either hand, between the woods, the holly and ivy hung aloft in the richest green, while hips and haws glittered in the hedgerows in thousands, like beads of the brightest coral. The woodlark (which, it is well known, sings nearly the whole of the year, and is only silent in June and July), and the robin were singing as cheerfully as if it were a fine day in February; and, unless my ear deceived me, I caught the notes of the thrush. The day was, indeed, so beautiful that I could not resist the temptation of venturing into the wood, for there was a dryness about the fallen leaves such as I had but rarely seen in winter. Wandering onward, I arrived at a little dell. One side was in shade; on the other the golden sunshine slept. Strange, there was also a rich yellow light on the shady side of the dell. On a nearer approach, I saw hundreds of primroses in full flower. Pale and beautiful, there they stood, throwing a sweet fragrance all around; the new green leaves and the old ones, brown and decayed, all adhering to the same root. Such a discovery would have been a little fortune to a London flower-seller; and had they been dug up by the roots, and offered for sale in Cheapside (which is not more than twelve miles from Sanderstead), no doubt the whole dell-full might have been disposed of in one day, for it was just upon the verge of Christmas.

At no season of the year is the hare in better condition than now. He has got over his full autumn feeding, and there is a firmness about the flesh which will be lost after January. Hare hunting takes the precedence of the fox chase. It was followed by the ancients, and we have a description of it by Xenophon, long before the Christian era. By many it is also considered to afford more true hunting than the fox chase. The hare is no sooner found than it starts off and makes a circle; and as the scent is very weak until the hare is warmed, the harriers are often at fault, and driven over, and sometimes run backward instead of forward, hunting, as it is termed, "heel-ways." The hare should never be pressed upon too closely when first found, nor should the hounds be followed too near, as they sometimes turn back to regain the lost scent. Besides, by remaining behind, the motions of the hare can be better observed at a reasonable distance, and all her foils and doubles detected. It is wonderful what doubles the hare will sometimes make, when the scent has become warm: instances are on record of her feats on a dry road, when, having run all sorts of intricate ways, she will at last make a clear spring several feet from the spot, which occasions

many a fault; and while the harriers are beating widely about, or are far ahead, she will lie motionless in the very spot where she at one spring threw herself until the hounds have passed, when she will return again to her old starting point. When the hare begins to make more contracted circles, it is a sure proof that the hunt is pretty well over, for it is sure to come soon within the "spread of the pack," and it will not then be long before her death-try is heard. Although the hare sleeps, the eyes are never closed: it is the same with fishes—they also sleep with the eyes open.

The following description of winter, written about three hundred years ago, will be new to thousands of our readers; it was written by a good old Scotch bishop, named Gavin Douglas, and first rendered familiar to English readers by the poet Warton, to whom we are indebted for the following beautiful modern version:—"The fern withered on the miry fallows; the brown moors assumed a barren mossy hue; banks, sides of hills, and bottoms, grew white and bare; the cattle looked hoary from the dank weather; the wind made the red reed waver on the dyke. From the crags and the foreheads of the yellow rock hung great icicles, in length like a spear. The soil was dusky and grey, bereft of flowers, herbs, and grass; in every holt and forest the woods were stripped of their array. Boreas blew his bugle-horn so loud that the solitary deer withdrew to the dales; the small birds flocked to the thick briars, shunning the tempestuous blast, and changing their loud notes to chirping; the cataracts roared, and every linden tree whistled and bowed to the sounding wind. The poor labourers, wet and weary, dragged in the fen, the sheep and shepherds lurked under the hanging banks or wild broom. Warm from the chimney side, and refreshed with generous cheer, I stole to my bed, and lay down to sleep. When I saw the moon shed through the window her twinkling glances and wintry light; I heard the horned bird, the night-owl, shrieking horribly with crooked bill from her cavern; I heard the wild geese, with screaming cries, fly over the city through the silent night. I was now lulled to sleep, till the cock, clapping his wings, crowed thrice, and the day peeped. I waked and saw the moon disappear, and heard the jackdaws cackle on the roof of the house. The cranes, prognosticating tempests, in a firm phalanx pierced the air, with voices sounding like a trumpet. The kite, perched in an old tree fast by my chamber, cried lamentably, a sign of the dawning day. I rose, and half opening my window, perceived the morning, livid, wan, and hoary; the air overwhelmed with vapour and cloud; the ground, stiff, grey, and rough; the branches rustling; the sides of the hills looking black and hard with the driving blasts; the dew-drops congealed on the stubble and rind of trees; the sharp hailstones, deadly cold, and hopping on the thatch." We know no description of winter so beautiful as the above; nearly every word is a picture, every epithet is well chosen, and the whole as fine a piece of word-painting as ever appeared in descriptive poetry.

We have again arrived at the close of another year, and in our journey through it have glanced at many of the old manners and customs which are fast fading away. The railroads, that have cut up the ancient highways of England, will soon uproot the few rude and rural customs that remain: the rapid interchange will revolutionise the habits of our simple villagers, and they will become ashamed of following the ancient amusements, which for centuries have been the delight of their ancestors. As for ourselves, we seem to have lived on the verge of important changes. We have with our own eyes beheld the old May-games, harvest-homes, sheep-shearing feasts, wakes, statutes, Plough-Mondays, Palm-Sundays, and other ancient festivals and ceremonies, as they have no doubt existed for at least three or four centuries. We have also been dragged at the rate of two or three miles an hour in the creeping market-boat and heavy stage-wagon, and been wafted fifty miles in the same space of time in an express train. We can also just remember when a steam-boat was a marvel, and the banks of the river were lined for miles with wondering spectators. What changes another generation may witness, the future can alone unravel; if they keep pace with those that have marked the last memorable quarter of a century, scarcely a feature of the England which we have here depicted will remain. All the wonders of the "Arabian Nights" sink into insignificance beside our iron roads and electric telegraphs. As for Puck's exploit in the "Midsummer Night's Dream," of "putting a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes," we shall ere long be able to send a message around the same circle in less time than the fairy boasted of.



(The Descriptions of the Twelve Months are from the pen of Thomas Miller.)

ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA.

(Continued from August.)

greater at some oppositions than at others. If the orbits of Mars and the Earth were perfect circles, the distance between the two Planets at every opposition would be the same; but, owing to the elliptic figure of the orbits, a considerable variation in this distance takes place. The least distance possible between the Earth and Mars is when the opposition of Mars occurs at the time when the Earth is farthest from the Sun, and Mars the nearest to the Sun. At the time of opposition this year, on December 17, the Sun and the Earth are almost at their least distance from each other, and therefore the Planet will not appear in his greatest splendour. At the opposition in the year 1830, and that in 1845, the Planet approached nearer to the Earth than it will do again till the year 1860. At the opposition of Mars in 1830, the Planet's surface was watched by Dr. Maedlar, the Director of the Imperial Observatory, at Dorpat, Russia, and it was published in "Schumacher's Journal;" that all times there was seen at the South Pole, with great distinctness, a white, glittering, well-defined space, which has been called the "Snowy Zone." During the examination, several spots were seen. At the opposition in the year 1845, the surface of the Planet Mars was examined at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich; and the following is extracted from the Greenwich Astronomical Observations for the year 1845:—

"August 22nd, 11^h.—The night was very fine; and Mars being very nearly at the point of nearest approach to the Earth, the opportunity was taken to endeavour to obtain a delineation of his surface. Drawings of his appearance were made by the Astronomer Royal and by Mr. Main; and the following verbal description was added by the latter:—"About 10° to the apparent west of the apparent north point of the border of the Planet, there was a dazzling bright cap, which was contrasted very strongly by a dark zone immediately beneath it. A little below this shaded band a streak appeared, brighter than the parts above and below it, and of pretty nearly the same brightness as the borders of the Planet. The most remarkable dark spot on the disk was to the apparent left of the general dark mass which occupied a considerable portion of the upper surface; and there was also a dark spot on the right, quite clear of the general dark surface. It would seem as if an immense mountain range extended from one spot, across the dark surface, to the other spot; for the whole of the surface contiguous to the line joining the spots was very much mottled. On a minute examination, it appeared to me that the lower boundary of the darkened surface was in general form similar to a small circle of the sphere rather to the left of the centre of the Planet. It is probable that, with a more powerful telescope, some of these details would appear essentially different; for it was found very difficult to see the surface of the Planet with sufficient distinctness to record even the vague description which has been given." Mr. Glaisher undertook to watch the Planet at intervals during the night, for the purpose of observing whether the dark spots shifted their position appreciably. The image was too unsteady and undefined during his watch to determine this point satisfactorily; but his impression was that the whole dark mass on the surface moved towards the left."

"August 29th, 11^h.—The Planet was again watched by Mr. Main; and a sketch was made, differing in every particular (except in the appearance of the bright cap) from that made on August 22nd. The most remarkable appearance to be recorded verbally was, that between two dark horns or cusps, which terminated right and left the lower part of the darkened surface, the colour was of a singularly red tint, more nearly resembling rich red earth than anything else with which the observer could compare it. The dark part had a very faint blue tint."

The snowy zone of the South Pole of Mars has been generally noted by most observers at his opposition; and at several of these times dark spots have been seen upon the Planet, by observation of which the time of rotation of the Planet on its axis has been determined to be about 24h. 37m. 23s.

Mars will be most favourably situated for observations of this kind during the months of November and December of the present year. He will be finely located for examination, being high in the heavens, at midnight; he may be readily distinguished, by means of the diagrams given of his path in the heavens, by the redness of his colour, and by his occupying a situation almost midway between the stars Castor and Pollux and the Pleiades, moving from the former towards the latter.

ON THE RECENTLY-DISCOVERED PLANETS.

TILL the discovery of Uranus, by Sir William Herschel, in the year 1781, six Planets only were known; viz. Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. Kepler, from some analogy which he found to subsist among the distances of the Planets from the Sun, had suspected the existence of one situated between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. The discovery of Uranus, occupying an orbit confirmatory to the analogy of distance before referred to, impressed Astronomers very firmly with the belief that a Planet would be found between Mars and Jupiter. The interval between the orbits of Mercury and Venus is about 31,000,000 of miles; between those of Venus and the Earth, 27,000,000; and between those of the Earth and Mars, 51,000,000.* But between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter the interval amounts to 349,000,000 of miles, thus interrupting the apparent order of distance, and which is resumed by the distances of the Planets then known beyond Jupiter. Professor Bode at about this time published his celebrated law of the planetary distances. This law may be thus stated. If we set down the number 4 several times in a horizontal line, and to the second from the left hand add 3; to the third add twice 3, or 6; to the next add twice 6, or 12; to the next add twice 12, or 24, and so on; the sums of these numbers will represent nearly the relative distances of the Planets from the Sun; thus:—

4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	&c.
—	3	6	12	24	48	96	192	384	&c.
Sums 4	7	10	16	28	52	100	196	388	&c.

If the distance of the third Planet (the Earth) from the Sun be called 10, then, in this scheme, 4 will represent nearly the distance of Mercury; 7, that of Venus; 16, that of Mars; 28, that of the then unknown Planets, or, as it is now known, of the nine small Planets, &c. In the years 1784 and 1785, Baron de Zach, from these analogical distances, calculated the orbit of the empirical Planet, and published the results of his calculations in the Berlin Almanack for 1789. He gave the distance of the assumed Planet from the Sun as nearly 2½ times that of the Earth from the Sun, and that its period of revolution was about four years and nine months. In the year 1800, Baron Zach formed an association of 24 observers, who divided the Zodiac into 24 zones, each observer to examine one

* The interval between Mercury and Venus is too large; and it seems highly probable that there are Planets situated between them, which are invisible by reason of their small size and proximity to the Sun.

part, for the express purpose of searching out this concealed Planet. On Jan. 1, 1801, Piazzi, the Director of the Observatory at Palermo, noticed a small star in Taurus, which, on January 2, he found had retrograded no less than 4 minutes of arc in right ascension, and ¾ minutes of arc in N. declination. This retrograde motion continued till January 12, when the movement changed to direct motion. This proved to be a Planet; and Piazzi gave it the name of Ceres, in honour of Sicily, Ceres being the tutelary goddess of that country; and her emblem, the sickle (P), was adopted as the symbol of this Planet.

On the 28th of March, 1802, Dr. Olbers, of Bremen, in Lower Saxony, found another Planet situated in Virgo, and which, like Ceres, was found to revolve in an orbit situated between Mars and Jupiter. Dr. Olbers gave this Planet the name of Pallas, and chose the lance ♀, the attribute of Minerva, as its symbol. Thus two Planets were discovered, where one was suspected; and it was conjectured that they were fragments of a broken Planet, which had formerly circulated at the same distance from the Sun, and had been shattered by some internal convulsion. On this hypothesis, it was thought that there were other parts undiscovered, and the search was rigorously kept up.

On the 1st of September, 1804, M. Harding, at the Observatory at Lilienthal, near Bremen, observed a small star in Pisces, which proved to be a Planet, moving also at about the same distance as the two preceding Planets from the Sun. The Planet was called Juno, and the stary sceptre of the Queen of Olympus was adopted as its symbol ♄.

On the 29th of March, 1807, Dr. Olbers discovered another Planet, then occupying a position in Virgo, whose orbit was found to be also situated between those of Mars and Jupiter. Gauss named this Planet Vesta, and chose for its symbol ♂, an altar surrounded with a censer holding the sacred fire.

Thus, within six years, four Planets were discovered. After the discovery of Vesta, the examination continued till 1816, but without detecting another planetary object.

On the 8th of December, 1845, M. Hencke, of Driessen, while examining a portion of the heavens in Taurus, saw a star occupying a position where, he felt assured, no star previously existed. This object proved to be a Planet, and was found to be one of the remarkable group situated between Mars and Jupiter. The place of this Planet at the time of its discovery, and its path in the heavens, was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of February 7, 1846. It is called Astrea, and its symbol is ♁.

The discovery of the Planet Neptune ♆, September 23, 1846, at Berlin, was announced in the Almanack for 1847; and a chart, showing its place in the heavens at the time of discovery. Other particulars were given of this Planet in our Almanack of last year. To these we have to add, that Mr. Lassell, of Liverpool, who is in possession of an excellent telescope, on the 3rd of October, 1846, was impressed with the idea that the Planet had not the appearance of a round ball only, but that like Saturn it was surrounded by a ring. Since that time, Mr. Lassell has perfectly satisfied himself that this appearance does not arise from any defect in his telescope; and he has frequently seen the same appearance.

Professor Challis states that, on the 12th of January, 1847, he received a distinct impression that the Planet was surrounded by a ring; on the 14th, he saw the ring again. The ratio of the diameter of the ring to that of the Planet was about that of 3 to 2.

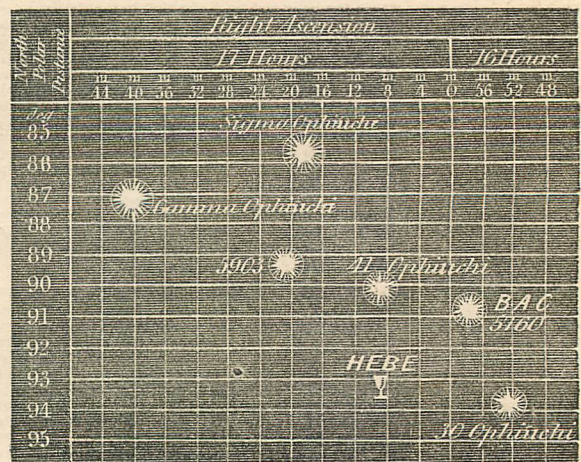
It seems certain that Neptune is attended by a satellite, and Mr. Lassell has determined its period to be 5d. 20h. 51m.

The orbit of Neptune, however, differs very materially from that assigned to it by Le Verrier and Adams; it is found to differ very little from a circle; and its distance from the Sun is less than that assigned to it by theory, and does not confirm Bode's law of planetary distances.

From these circumstances an attempt has been made, originating in America, with Professor Pierce of Cambridge, United States, and others, and subsequently by M. Babinet, to deprive Messrs. Leverrier and Adams of the great honour so justly due to these gentlemen, by asserting that the Planet Neptune is not the planet that their calculations had pointed out. The difference between the elements of this planet as indicated by theory—before any human eye had ever viewed it as a planet—and those deduced from observation, are not greater than might have been expected. It must be regretted that any difference of opinion on this subject should have existed.

On July 1, 1847, M. Hencke discovered another Planet, situated in Ophiuchus, and to which the name of Hebe was given, with a cup for its symbol (☩). The place occupied by the Planet at the time of its discovery is shown in the annexed engraving.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY HEBE, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY M. HENCKE.



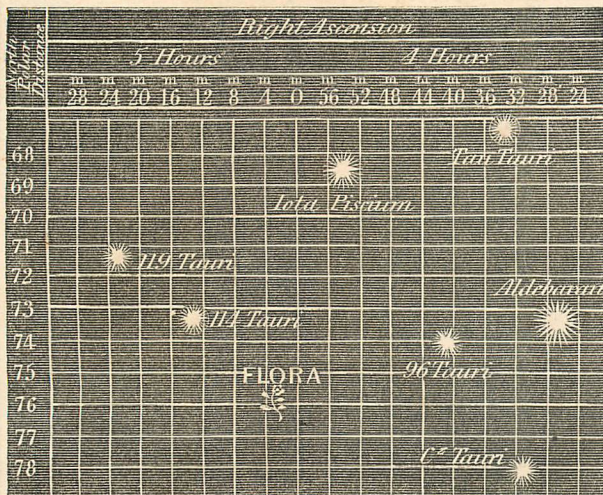
On August 13, 1847, Mr. Hind discovered another member of the remarkable group of Planets between Mars and Jupiter. Mr. Hind observes, in the Monthly Notices of the Astronomical Society (Vol. xvii., No. 17), that "the Planet has

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

been detected in a systematic search, instituted expressly with the view to the discovery of such a body, and commenced in November, 1846. The name given to this Planet is Iris, and the symbol adopted for its designation is a semicircle, with an interior star (☾). The place in the heavens occupied by this Planet at the time of its discovery was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of August 21, 1847.

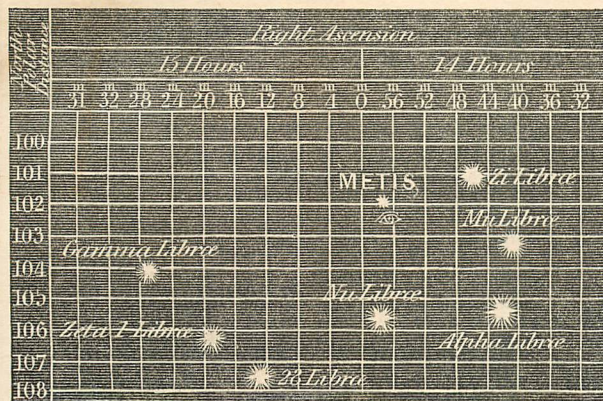
On October 18, 1847, Mr. Hind, while comparing the excellent chart of Professor Knorre with the heavens, discovered what seemed to be a star of the ninth magnitude, and which proved to be another of this remarkable group of Planets. At Mr. Bishop's request, Sir John Herschel has named this Planet, Flora, with a flower (♂) for its symbol. The place occupied in the heavens at the time of its discovery is shewn in the annexed engraving.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY FLORA, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY MR. HIND.



On April 25, 1848, Mr. Graham discovered another Planet, at Mr. Cooper's Observatory, Markree, Sligo, Ireland, by following up a class of observations recommended by Mr. Cooper. This Planet has been named Metis, with an eye and star for its symbol (☾). Its place in the heavens at the time of discovery is shewn in the annexed engraving.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE PLANET METIS, ON ITS DISCOVERY BY MR. GRAHAM.



Thus six Planets have been discovered in less than three years: the first, Astræa, the 8th of December, 1845; the last, Metis, April 25, 1848. These several discoveries of telescopic Planets lead us to suspect the existence of many such bodies, yet undiscovered; and there seems good reason to believe that in a few years we shall have a large addition to the members of the Solar System. M. Valz has proposed to the Académie des Sciences de Paris, a plan which, it is believed, would, in four years discover all these unknown Planets, by examining carefully all the small stars situated near the ecliptic. To the carrying out of this plan it is necessary to construct 24 celestial charts, containing all the stars to the 12th magnitude situated in or near the ecliptic, and subdividing the work of examination into twelve parts. M. Valz has presented to the Académie a chart of this kind, constructed by M. Faye.

The dimensions of the orbits of these nine small planets are nearly the same; but their inclinations to the plane of the ecliptic are very different. Their inclinations are—Flora, 9° 1' 37"; Iris, 13° 20' 50"; Vesta, 5° 7' 22"; Hebe, 11° 31' 11"; Astræa, 10° 49' 56"; Juno, 14° 42' 20"; Ceres, 4° 24' 57"; Pallas, 13° 54' 49"; and Metis, 5° 35' 24". Their periods of revolution are, Flora, 1193 days; Iris, 1345 days; Vesta, 1325 days; Hebe, 1375 days; Astræa, 1510 days; Juno, 1595 days; Ceres, 1681 days; and Pallas, 1686 days.

The dimensions of all these Planets are small; and they are not distinguishable by the naked eye; and the most powerful telescopes have hitherto failed to measure their apparent diameter with even tolerable accuracy.

TIMES OF THE POLE STAR BEING ON THE MERIDIAN, OR DUE NORTH, DURING THE YEAR 1849.

The Pole Star being situated at the distance of 19½ from the North Pole, describes a small circle round it once in 24 hours, and is therefore on the meridian, or due north, twice every day, once above the point round which it revolves, and once below it. The following are the times on the 1st day of every month this year that the Pole Star is so situated, and at no other times is this star due north on those days:—

	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
Jan. 1	at 6 22 2 A.M. below the Pole, and	6 20 4 P.M. above the Pole.	
Feb. 1	" 4 19 43 "	" 4 17 45 "	"
March 1	" 2 29 19 "	" 2 27 21 "	"
April 1	" 0 27 16 "	" 0 25 19 "	"
May 1	" 10 27 28 "	above the Pole, and	10 25 30 " below the Pole.
June 1	" 8 25 52 "	" 8 23 54 "	"
July 1	" 6 28 19 "	" 6 26 22 "	"
Aug. 1	" 4 26 50 "	" 4 24 51 "	"
Sept. 1	" 2 25 17 "	" 2 23 20 "	"
Oct. 1	" 0 27 30 "	" 0 25 32 "	"
Nov. 1	" 10 23 37 "	below the Pole, and	10 21 39 " above the Pole.
Dec. 1	" 8 25 27 "	" 8 23 29 "	"
Dec. 31	" 6 27 8 "	" 6 25 10 "	"

From these times those of the meridian passage of the star can be easily calculated for any other day in every month.

All stars whose angular distance from the North Pole is less than the co-latitude of the place of observation, are on the Meridian twice every day; and all stars whose distance from the North Pole is greater than the co-latitude of the place, are on the Meridian once only every day: and at these times they are situated due south.

MAGNETIC DECLINATION, OR VARIATION OF THE COMPASS.

In the Almanack for the year 1847, we gave the average monthly position of the magnetic needle, with respect to the astronomical meridian, for the years 1841, 1842, and 1843. In the Almanack of last year, the values of the angles between the astronomical and magnetic meridian for Greenwich, were given for the year 1844. Within the last year, two volumes of the Greenwich Magnetic and Meteorological Observations for the years 1845 and 1846 have been published; from which we learn that the following were the monthly values of the westerly declination, deduced from two-hourly observations made during the day and night, in the years 1845 and 1846.

	1845.		1846.
January	... 22° 58' 6"	January	... 22° 50' 56"
February	... 22 57 20	February	... 22 50 17
March	... 22 57 6	March	... 22 49 21
April	... 22 59 14	April	... 22 51 51
May	... 22 57 28	May	... 22 49 32
June	... 23 1 10	June	... 22 51 43
July	... 22 57 24	July	... 22 49 24
August	... 22 58 11	August	... 22 49 33
September	... 22 56 7	September	... 22 48 55
October	... 22 53 21	October	... 22 47 55
November	... 22 52 53	November	... 22 47 38
December	... 22 52 18	December	... 22 47 51

And the mean westerly declination, for the year 1845, was 22° 56' 43"; and that for the year 1846 was 22° 49' 35". The decrease, from the year 1844 to 1845, was 18' 36"; and that from the year 1845 to 1846 was 7' 8".

MANETIC DIP.

If a magnetic bar be suspended by its centre of gravity, so as to counteract the action of gravity, it will settle in the Magnetic Meridian; but that extremity of it which is directed towards the north will point downwards, or, as it is technically called, dip. The magnet thus inclined at Greenwich is now something less than 69°. The following are the mean quarterly values of this element, as observed at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in the years 1845 and 1846, extracted from the published volumes for those years.

MEAN QUARTERLY MAGNETIC DIP.

Months forming the Quarterly Period.	At 9h A.M.		At 3h P.M.	
	1845.	1846.	1845.	1846.
January, February, March	66° 0'	68° 58'	69° 0'	68° 56'
April, May, June	68° 58'	68° 57'	68° 57'	68° 57'
July, August, September	68° 56'	69° 1'	68° 54'	68° 59'
October, November, December	68° 54'	68° 59'	68° 59'	68° 59'

And the mean value for the year 1845, at 9 A.M. was 68° 56½'

" at 3 P.M. was 68° 58'

1846, at 9 A.M. was 68° 58'

" at 3 P.M. was 68° 57½'

The mean Magnetic Dip, at 9h. A.M., had decreased between the years 1844 and 1845 by 3½'; and between the years 1845 and 1846, it had increased 14'.

The mean Magnetic Dip, at 3h. P.M., had decreased between the years 1844 and 1845 by 2'; and between the years 1845 and 1846, it had decreased by half a minute of arc.

These values of the dip and declination at Greenwich are not always the same. See the Almanacks of the two preceding years.

ENCKE'S COMET.

In the year 1818, Encke ascertained the period of a small comet to be 1208 days only. This announcement was received with some degree of doubt by many persons. The comet had been seen several times before; in 1786, by Messrs. Mechain and Messier; in 1795, by the late Miss Herschel; in 1805, by Pons; and in 1818, by Pons again; but at these times it was supposed that different comets had been observed. Encke announced its re-appearance in 1822, and it was observed at this time by Sir Thomas Brisbane, at Paramatta. It has since been observed at the predicted times, but differing somewhat from the predicted places, these differences always being the same way; and hence it was supposed that this was caused by the comet meeting resistance to its free motion by the medium through which it passed. On August 14th, 1848, Lieutenant Stratford, the superintendent of the Nautical Almanack, published an ephemeris of this comet; and on September 22nd, 1848, it was discovered by Professor Smyth, at the observatory of Dr. Lee, at Hartwell, occupying a place differing from that predicted by 24 seconds in Right Ascension, and 50 seconds of arc only in North Polar distance.

THE FLOWER-GARDEN, &c.

BY MRS. LOUDON.

JANUARY.

The principal work that can be done in a garden in January is to protect tender plants from frost, and this is a task of no small difficulty in pleasure-grounds and shrubberies, as damp must be guarded against as well as cold. After warm dry summers the task of protecting half-hardy shrubs during the winter is rendered comparatively easy, by the ripening and hardening of the wood; but after a summer like that of 1848, the young wood which has grown remains even in winter green and succulent, and is as easily killed as the stalk of any herbaceous plant. After such a season it will be useless to attempt to cover the stems and leaves of half-hardy evergreens, particularly those with thick fleshy leaves, like the camellia and the evergreen magnolia; and the best way will be to protect their roots and the lower part of the stem with a thick mulching of straw or decayed leaves. In most situations, the acacias and other Australian plants which require matting to preserve their stems, will probably be killed to the ground; but it must be observed, that when acacias are killed by frost, the stem only should be cut down, and the root should be left in the ground, as in most cases it will send up fresh shoots the following spring. Herbaceous plants require no other treatment than covering the roots with dead leaves, as the stems generally die down in autumn. The tree pæony is, however, frequently affected by spring frosts, and it is best protected by a skeleton framework of hoops, covered with matting, sufficiently large and light to admit of its being taken off in the middle of the day, when the air has been warmed by the sun. Bulbs, when they are left in the ground during the winter, should never be covered with straw, and only moderately with dead leaves, as they are easily injured by damp, and when deeply covered they are frequently attacked by mice. Alpine plants are most easily protected by plunging the pots in a bed of earth, over which is placed a skeleton frame made of half hoops at regular distances, and covered with matting. It must be observed that in all cases where it is directed to protect plants by covering them with mats, which are to be taken off during the day when it is not actually freezing, the mats must always be replaced before the sun sets; or, as a safer rule, they should only be taken off between ten in the morning and three o'clock in the afternoon. The eggs of insects should be sought for at this season, and destroyed wherever they can be found.

In greenhouses as much mischief is often done by keeping the plants too hot, as would have been experienced by exposing them to the cold. The proper heat, for a greenhouse is never to let the thermometer fall lower than 40°, nor rise above 45°. Air should also be given regularly every day when it is not actually freezing. It is an important axiom in plant culture, that air is as necessary as water; and the admission of air to a greenhouse, particularly during winter, is absolutely essential for the health of the plants. Plants obtain nourishment from air as well as from water; and when they have too much water and too little air, they invariably damp off. The sashes of every greenhouse should be made to open at the top, to admit the exit of the heated air before any cold air is suffered to enter; as, if the lower sashes are opened first, so as to admit the cold air before the heated air has escaped, the latter is condensed, and falls back upon the plants in visible drops, and this is found to be highly injurious to them. Plants may be preserved during winter in what is called a cold pit, quite as well as in a greenhouse. A cold pit is an excavation in the ground, to the depth of about three and a half or four feet, and about six feet long and four feet wide. It is lined with brick, the brick-work being raised about a foot above the surface of the ground, and a wooden

frame, the angle of which should be between 15° and 25°, fixed to it, in which a sash light is made to slide. The plants are placed at the bottom of the pit, and, when the weather is very cold, a mat is placed over the glass. In most places plants may be preserved in pits of this kind during the most severe winter without fire heat. When the plants to be preserved are very small, the pit need not be made so deep. When plants are kept in pits of this nature, they will require air to be given to them every fine day between ten and three. It should never be forgotten that all plants, whether in the open air or in a greenhouse, should be kept as dry as possible during winter. Plants in pits and greenhouses should have no more water given to them than is sufficient to keep them alive.

Among the few ornamental plants which are in flower at this season, may be mentioned a new kind of yellow jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*), which was introduced by Mr. Fortune, from Naukin in China, in July, 1844. It was at first kept in a greenhouse; but, like most of the other plants which have been introduced from China, it was soon found to do best in the open air; and it flowered beautifully in the garden of the Horticultural Society at Chiswick, for the first time, in January, 1848. The flowers are produced in great

abundance, but are destitute of fragrance, and appear without the leaves. The plant is generally trained to a trellis, or tied to an upright post three or four feet high, so as to permit the young twigs to hang down, which they are naturally inclined to do.

FEBRUARY.

There is very little to be done in the pleasure-grounds and shrubbery in this month; but the gravel walks in both should be attended to, as gravel walks are very liable to be injured by melting snow. Care, therefore, should be taken, as

soon as a thaw commences, or before, to remove a portion of the snow; and, as soon as the ground is sufficiently dry, the walks should be carefully rolled. Seeds of trees and shrubs are generally sown in this month; and the rule for sowing them is to let the soil be as deep above the seed as the seed is thick.

In the flower-garden great care should still be taken to protect the half-hardy plants, not only from the frost, but from the sun, which at this season is frequently very powerful. It must be observed that the mischief done by frost is always very greatly increased if the sun be permitted to shine upon the frozen plant: it is like exposing a frost-bitten person to the heat of a great fire. The best thing that can be done when a plant is frozen is to cover it over with a flower-pot, or some other covering, till the air has gradually become sufficiently warm to thaw it slowly. The choicer kinds of anemones and ranunculuses are planted in this month. They are generally planted in rows about five inches apart and two inches deep; and a little sand is put under each tuber when it is planted. In planting the ranunculus tubers, care should be taken to put the claws downwards, and not break off any part of them, as when the claws are broken off the tubers are very apt to rot. In planting the anemone tubers, the eye or bud should always be kept uppermost. This is generally considered the season for manuring a flower-garden, and the best kind of manure for the purpose is the remains of an old hot-bed. Decayed leaves, which have become a kind of mould, and chopped turf taken from an old pasture, are also very useful for enriching the ground intended for flowers; but guano and the new kinds of mineral manures are very dangerous in inexperienced hands, and even first-rate gardeners frequently find them produce injurious effects.

Very few flowers are in blossom in February, though sometimes a few early crocuses and snowdrops make their appearance even in the beginning of the month; and cinerarias, kalmias, and a few other plants, forced into flower by fire heat, are seen in the greenhouses. In the shrubbery, almost the only ornamental tree in flower is the *Chimonanthus fragrans*, or winter flower, which produces its delightfully fragrant flowers from December to March, though they are in the greatest perfection about February. This very interesting plant was introduced so long ago as 1776; but, as it was at first supposed that it would not live without protection, and as it will not flower till it is of a considerable size, it was very little grown. At last it struck some cultivator, that, as it was a native of Japan, it might very possibly live in the open air, as many plants from that country are found to do in England; and it is now found to grow freely in the open gardens in the neighbourhood of London, and to produce abundance of flowers, particularly if trained against a wall. The flowers are yellowish, with a purple mark at the bottom of each petal, and they appear before the leaves, which are of a smooth shining light green. There are two varieties: the first, which is common, has the flowers much larger and handsomer than those of the species but not quite so fragrant; and the other, which is very rare, has the flowers much smaller, and entirely yellow. In China and Japan, it is said that at great banquets pieces of the *chimonanthus* are laid by every plate. Plants of this shrub may be procured in most of the nurseries at about three-and-sixpence each; observing that it is known best under its old name of *Calycanthus procera*.



CHIMONANTHUS FRAGRANS GRANDIFLORUS.

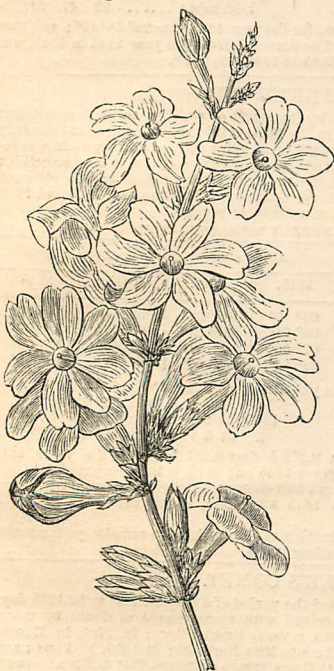
In greenhouses ventilation ought to be carefully attended to. Whenever the air is mild, and the sun shines, the door should be opened, as well as the windows, for at least half an hour in the middle of every day, so that there may be a free current of air through the house. All the dead leaves should be removed as soon as they are sufficiently decayed to come off the plant without injuring it; and if any moss or green matter appears on the surface of the earth in the pots, it should be removed, and the earth loosened with a flat piece of stick about an inch broad. It must be observed, that what has been said of removing the dead leaves does not apply to bulbous plants, as their leaves should be left on as long as possible. Plants require very little water at this season; but fire heat is even more useful than in the middle of winter, as it serves to dry up the damp, which is now a most dangerous enemy to plants. Where cuttings of greenhouse plants which were struck in autumn have been kept several together in one pot during the winter, they should now be potted separately.

A hot-bed may be made in this month for raising the seeds of tender flowers and striking cuttings. The manure used need not be more than two feet deep, and it should extend three or four inches beyond the frame on every side. When the steam of the manure is sufficiently gone off, a layer of light soil, six inches thick, should be spread over the bed. In this bed may be plunged pots containing the seeds of petunias and verbenas of various kinds, *Phlox Drummondii*, several sorts of mimulus, the blue lobelias, &c., and also of the following kinds of climbing plants, which will be found very useful for training against verandas, or to cover iron railings during summer: The canary-bird flower (*Tropæolum peregrinum*), *Lophospermum scandens*, *L. Hendersoni*, *Maurandia Barclayana*, *Eccremocarpus scaber*, *Rhodochiton volubile*, *Thunbergia alata*, *T. alata alba*, *T. aurantiaca*, *T. a. superba*, and *Ipomœa rubro-ærulea*. The bulbs of various kinds of amaryllis, and those of *Agapanthus umbellatus*, may now be potted in a compost of two parts of loam and one of rotten manure from an old hot-bed, with a little rough sand, and the pots plunged in the hot-bed. They should be watered when potted; but they will not require any more water until they begin to grow. The tubers of *Fuchsia fulgens* and *Salvia patens*, and the bulbs of *Achimenes longiflora*, may be treated in the same manner.

MARCH.

In this month turfs are generally laid down, the ground having been first dug over, levelled, and rolled with a heavy roller. It is then slightly watered, if the weather happens to be dry; and the turf, which is brought to the ground in long strips rolled up, is laid down, the edges being carefully joined, and the pieces made to fit exactly. The turf is then generally beaten with a heavy beater, and carefully rolled. Where a lawn has been laid down a long time, it should be frequently rolled in this month, as lawns are very apt to become uneven during winter. The grass should now begin to be mown once a fortnight, as it is impossible to have a fine closely covered surface of grass without regular mowing: the rule is, once a month in winter, that is, in December, January, and February; and once a fortnight for the rest of the year. In warm moist seasons, the grass sometimes grows so fast as to require mowing once a week in summer; but in dry seasons the roots are apt to be burnt, and the grass killed, if it is mown too often.

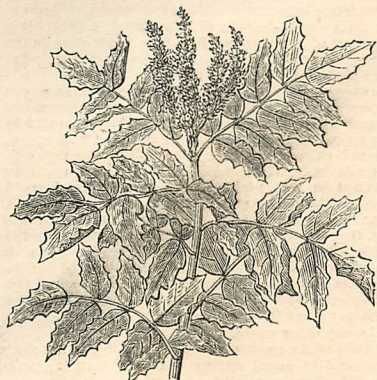
In the flower-garden most of the plants will now require to be taken up, divided, and re-planted; a little fresh earth being given to them, and all the decayed parts cut out before they are re-planted. The seeds of half-hardy annuals, such as the China asters, Chinese pinks, French and African marigolds, everlasting, and ten-week stock, may now be sown in a slight hot-bed; and a few of the more hardy annuals, such as the sunflower, larkspur, lupin, convolvulus, candytuft, and poppy, may be sown in the open border; also some of the Cali-



JASMINUM NUDIFLORUM.

formian annuals, such as *Nemophila insignis* and *N. maculata*, *Gilia bicolor* and *tricolor*, and all the kinds of *Leptosiphon*. Carnations and pinks which were raised from layers last year should now be planted out where they are to flower. Box edgings should also be now planted, and gravel walks made where necessary. Old gravel walks which are in a bad state may now be raked or forked over, and then rolled, though this should never be done when the walks are wet.

In the open ground, the crocuses, hepaticas, and other spring plants are now in full flower; and in the shrubberies, the ash berberies, or mahonias, are in all their beauty.



MAHONIA AQUIFOLIUM.

These plants, which have all been introduced within the last thirty years, are some of the most valuable additions that have been made for many years. One of the most splendid kinds is the holly-leaved ash berberry (*Mahonia Aquifolium*). It is an evergreen, and its leaves, which are of a beautiful dark shining green in summer, assume a purplish tinge in autumn and winter, and are of a beautiful yellowish red when they are quite young. The flowers, which are of a brilliant golden yellow, are produced in large clusters in March and April, and they are succeeded by clusters of dark purple fruit, covered with the most beautiful violet bloom. The plant is a native of California and Mexico, and, indeed, it is found on nearly all the north-west coast of North America, growing in rich vegetable soil in woods, where it forms a thick undergrowth. When it was first introduced into England, in 1823, the plants sold in nurseries at ten guineas each; and, as it could only be propagated very slowly by layers, the plants continued to be sold at a high price for several years. As, however, it is now found that it can be propagated by seeds, which ripen freely in this country, plants can be procured in most nurseries at sixpence each. There are several other kinds of Mahonia, the largest and most showy of which is called *M. fascicularis*. It has bluish-green leaves, which look as if covered with a fine bloom, and its flowers are produced in great abundance. It is much taller than the other species, but it is rather too tender to live in English gardens without the protection of a wall; and as it does not ripen its seeds freely, it is still rather dear. Hybrid plants, however, have been raised by crossing this with some of the other species. *M. repens* seldom rises above two feet high; and *M. glumacea* has the peculiarity of producing its flowers in October.

In greenhouses the plants should be carefully examined, and re-potted when necessary, taking care that the fresh pots are quite clean and dry. Cuttings of greenhouse plants are frequently made at this season. The shoot should be cut off as smooth as possible, and planted in sandy soil, the earth being pressed firmly round it. The length of the cutting is generally about five or six inches, and two of the lower leaves are cut off with a sharp knife close to the stem. Cuttings of camellias and other hard-wooded greenhouse plants are generally made at this season from the points of the shoots, after the spring growth has been completed, but before the young wood has thoroughly ripened. The cuttings are generally planted about an inch deep, and covered with a bell-glass. Those of the different kinds of heath, being very difficult to strike, are generally made not more than one or two inches long, and they are planted in pure white sand, being then covered with a bell-glass, and the pot plunged in a hot-bed. Cuttings of cactus, mesembryanthemum, and other fleshy-leaved plants, should be dried for two or three days before they are planted, as if they are put in the ground when the wound is fresh they will rot.

APRIL.

In the pleasure-ground and shrubbery, half-hardy shrubs are generally planted at this season. If they have been kept in pots, the ball of earth about the roots should be broken, and the roots carefully spread out before they are covered with earth, which should be to the depth of only from two to four inches, according to the soil; the greatest depth being necessary in the lightest soil. The Provence, white, and moss roses should now have their young shoots shortened to three or four buds; but the hybrid Provence roses should have five or six buds left; and the hybrid China, the Bourbon, and the Scotch roses, if intended for planting against a post, or a wooden frame, should have only the tips of their shoots taken off. The evergreen roses should be left at their full length; for if they are cut in they will produce long vigorous shoots, covered with an abundance of leaves, but having no flowers.



DIELYTRA SPECTABILIS.

In the flower-garden, the early-flowering dwarf kinds of dahlia may be planted; and as the auriculas will now begin to flower, they should be shielded, if possible, from the effects of the weather. The hardy annuals that were sown in March in the open border should now be thinned, and the seeds of the remainder of the hardy annual plants should be sown. In thinning the annuals

that have come up, care should be taken not to pull up or loosen those which are intended to remain. Annuals should always be thinned according to their height, three or four of the larger kinds being left in each patch; while of the dwarf kinds it may be safe to leave as many as seven or eight. Some few annuals are worth the trouble of transplanting; but when this is the case, the hole in which they are to be put should be made with the point of the trowel, instead of using the dibber, as the latter instrument renders the earth on the sides of the hole so compact that it is impossible for the roots of a young and feeble plant to penetrate into it. Among the flowers which are most beautiful in this month may be mentioned *Dielytra spectabilis*, introduced by Mr. Fortune, from China, in 1846. It is quite hardy in ordinary flower-gardens; the stems dying down to the ground in autumn, and the roots remaining dormant until the following spring, when the plant again appears, and flowers in April, May, and June. It is readily increased by dividing the roots in spring when the young shoots begin to appear, or by cuttings taken off in summer. It will grow in any common garden soil; but the situation in which it is placed should be sheltered from high winds. This plant is, at present, scarce and dear. It is nearly allied to the fumitory, but its leaves resemble those of the tree pæony.

The greenhouse will require very little attention in this month, except as relates to watering the plants regularly, and giving them air. The plants that are coming into flower should be syringed over their leaves every other day till the flowers expand, when the syringing should be discontinued. In small greenhouses where there are vines, they begin to show flower-buds in this month.

In the conservatory, climbing plants are generally pruned and thinned at this season. The passion-flower should have its side shoots cut to within half an inch of the main stem; and this will occasion strong blossoming shoots to spring from the part left. *Maurandias* may be treated in a similar manner; but most of the other greenhouse climbers will only require thinning. When camellias are required to blossom early, they should be placed, during this month, in a hot-house, or some other situation where they can be kept at a heat of from 50° to 60°; taking care that, while they are kept in this heat, they are regularly watered every day and their leaves syringed every other day.

MAY

In the lawn worms are often very troublesome during this month; and, to kill them, the grass should be watered with lime-water, made by mixing forty gallons of water with one peck of freshly-slacked lime. The mixture should be well stirred, and then suffered to stand till the sediment is deposited.

The trees and shrubs which were planted in April should be frequently watered; the grass should be mown once a fortnight, and raked up, so as to cover the ground about the roots of the newly-planted trees, in order to keep them moist. The buds of the roses should be examined in this month, as they are very apt to have a small caterpillar in them, which, if not removed, will either destroy the bud, or, at least, prevent it from expanding.

In the flower-garden, some of the hyacinths and tulips will probably have their leaves sufficiently decayed to come off when slightly pulled with the hand; and, when this is the case, the bulbs should be taken up and spread out on a mat in some dry airy place. The crocuses, snowdrops, and cornflags should, however, be left in the ground. The tubers of the tall-growing dahlias may be planted in this month; and when they are put into the ground care should be taken to place the eyes or buds uppermost, covering the crown with about three inches of soil.



WEIGELIA ROSEA.

Weigelia rosea is a new plant which flowers in this month, introduced from China, by Mr. Fortune, in 1846. It forms a handsome middle-sized bush, resembling the *Philadelphus*, or, as it is generally called, the *Syringa*, or mock orange, and it is quite as hardy as that well-known plant. The flowers of the *Weigelia* are of a beautiful bright rose-colour; and they are produced in great numbers, hanging down in graceful natural festoons. The plant will grow well in any common garden soil; and it is propagated by cuttings, made at any time in the spring or summer. Though so recently introduced, it is so easily propagated that it is already advertised in some nurseries at eighteen-pence a plant. This plant is nearly allied to the fly honeysuckle. The half-hardy annuals and climbing plants, which were raised in hot-beds, may now be planted out in beds, previously prepared by digging in a coating of the remains of an old hot-bed, or of rotten leaves. If the plants, however, have been kept in the hot-bed where they were raised, they should be hardened, by placing the pots first in a greenhouse or cold frame, and then in the open air, first only in the middle of the day, and afterwards all day long, before the plants are taken out of their pots and finally placed in the open ground. In putting the plants into the ground, care should be taken to keep them at least a foot apart; and those that have long trailing branches should be planted with their branches to the north, the branches being pegged down immediately. As the art of pegging down judiciously is of the greatest possible importance to the beauty of a flower-garden, it is natural that amateurs should be anxious to know what to us for the purpose. Most gardening books say short hooked sticks; but these are not always to be obtained, particularly in suburban gardens. A correspondent of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* has lately recommended hair-pins, which answer the purpose very well, and which, though they may be despised by regular gardeners, are certainly very convenient for a lady, as they are very easily procured and easily managed. Another correspondent of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, who despises the hair-pins, recommends taking pieces of bast mat, and twisting them so hard as to be able to force them into the ground; but this appears to me rather a difficult operation, and, as I have not been able to accomplish it myself, I think few ladies will be able to manage it, and that, therefore, it will be best for them to try the hair-pins, or to use small bent pieces of wire, prepared for the purpose, which are sold at some of the ironmongers. When plants are pegged down, the branches should be spread carefully over the beds, and the pegs placed at the joints.

Most of the greenhouse plants may be removed into the open air in this month; and, if they are to remain in pots, they are generally shifted about this time. When plants are re-potted, the earth should be shaken in, and gently pressed

down, but not too firmly: as, in one case, if hollow places are left between the roots and the pot, the roots will wither; while, in the other, if the earth is too compact, the roots will not be able to penetrate through it, and it will become impervious alike to air and water. Where vines are grown in a greenhouse, the berries will now be generally set, and experienced gardeners always thin them, as more grapes are produced on each bunch than can be ripened. It is, however, rather a difficult operation for an inexperienced person, as the bunches must not be touched by the hand, and, consequently, it is generally safer for amateurs to leave the bunches without thinning the grapes. It will be, however, necessary to prune the vines, as the shoots generally push out vigorously at this season, and consequently gardeners generally cut off the ends of the shoots, leaving not above two joints on each. The greenhouse should be kept warm and as moist as possible while the grapes are swelling; but the vines should not be syringed, the moisture being produced by pouring water on the floor.

A great many caterpillars are found at this season; and they should be sought for, and destroyed early in the month, while they are small, as they have done their principal mischief when they have attained their full size.

JUNE.

In the month of June there is very little to be done in the flower-garden. The work of preparation is over, and that of enjoyment has begun. In the pleasure-ground, however, the lawn should be mown every fortnight, and rolled every week; and in the flower-garden the annual flowers should be tied up and cut in where it is necessary to make them appear neat. Carnations are now going into flower, and as the buds are very apt to burst on one side before they open, some gardeners separate the sepals regularly all round with a penknife; others, to prevent the calyx opening too far, tie a piece of waxed thread round the middle; and others cut a piece of cardboard so as just to encircle the calyx, so that when the flowers expand the petals appear to rest upon the card, and, of course, form a regular flower. Box edgings should be cut about the middle of this month, if the weather be moist; but, if the weather be dry, it is generally considered advisable to wait for rain, as box edgings which are cut when the weather is dry are very apt to look brown, and to die half-way down the shoots. Amongst the multitude of plants which are in flower at this season, the most ornamental shrub is decidedly *Ceanothus azureus*, which is now covered with panicles of flowers, of a brilliant celestial blue. It is a native of Mexico, whence it was introduced in 1818, and it flowers best when growing against a wall. In its native country its bark is considered useful in cases of fever. There are several other species of *Ceanothus*, and amongst them the common red root, or New Jersey tea (*C. americanus*). *C. azureus* is, however, by far the most ornamental species of the genus, and it may be procured in any nursery for about eighteen-pence a plant. *Ceanothus* is nearly allied to the genus *Rhamnus*.



As the greenhouse plants are now generally set out in the open air, the principal care that they require is to remove the dead leaves, and to prevent the roots from striking through the hole in the bottom of the pots. If any of the plants appear to droop when they evidently do not want water, they should be turned out of the pot on the hand, and their roots examined, as there is most probably a worm in the pot, which should be instantly removed, as worms in pots are very destructive by cutting through the roots. If any plants are kept in the greenhouse at this season, they should be frequently and carefully examined, as they are very apt to become infested with some kind of *Aphis*. They should also be watered and syringed every day, unless any chance to be in flower, when the syringing may be dispensed with.

In the vinery a moist atmosphere will be no longer requisite.

JULY.

VERY little requires to be done in the shrubbery at this season; but evergreen plants may now be removed if they are watered immediately after transplanting. The rhododendrons and other plants which have done flowering should have their seed pods removed as soon as they are formed, as if they are allowed to ripen their seeds every season, they will become weak and die in a few years of premature old age. In hot dry weather, choice plants in the shrubbery should be watered; but it is of no use doing so unless the surface of the ground is first loosened. Plants should never be watered with cold spring-water, as it is always injurious, and in very hot weather positively dangerous. Where there is no other water, it should be exposed to the atmosphere for several days before it is used.

In the flower-garden, this is the season for making layers. A layer is the branch of a plant, which is twisted or wounded so as to prevent the free circulation of the sap, and to occasion an accumulation of it to be deposited in the part just above the obstruction, which is buried in the ground in the hope that the warmth and moisture by which it is surrounded may induce it to send out roots. In general the layer is cut half through at the bend, and sometimes it is partially slit up. Sometimes layers are made all round a plant, the branches being pegged down so as to form a circle round the main stem. Many plants are propagated in this manner, and, among others, verbenas and carnations. Cuttings are also made at this season; and what are called pipings, which are, in fact, cuttings of pinks and carnations. This is also the season for budding roses. When this last operation is to be performed, the bud is taken from a shoot of the current year; but the stock may be of several years' growth. The bud is cut out by making a transverse incision in the wood, a little below an eye, which is met by two longitudinal cuts, meeting a short distance above the eye, so that when the bud is taken from the scion, it is with a triangular piece of bark, attached to which should always be a small portion of the wood, which, however, must be removed before the bud is inserted in the stock. When



LEYCESTERIA FORMOSA.

which, however, must be removed before the bud is inserted in the stock. When

the bud is prepared, two slits in the shape of an inverted T are made in the stock, and the bark on each side of the long cut being raised with a knife, the bark to which the bud is attached is slipped in, and tied in its place with bast mat; the principal care required in the operation being to make the horizontal edge of the cut in the stock fit exactly to the horizontal edge of the bud. One of the most beautiful shrubs now in flower is the *Leycesteria formosa*; as the deep green of its stem and leaves contrasts strongly with the reddish purple hue of the large bractees which shade its white flowers. It is generally considered to be allied to the honeysuckles. The plant was originally introduced in 1824; but being little known, it was neglected and forgotten till it was re-introduced from Nepal, in 1836. It is quite hardy, and has the advantage of growing and flowering freely close to the sea. The tamarisk is another plant which will also grow close to the sea; but most other flowering shrubs are seriously injured by the spray.

In the greenhouse there is nothing to be done this month, except in the way of cleaning it, by whitewashing, painting, &c., if the plants have been all removed to the open air. Many of the greenhouse plants may, however, be propagated by layers or cuttings, and, in particular, cuttings may be made of hydrangeas, camellias, shrubby cinerarias and calceolarias, and pelargoniums (geraniums); and the cuttings that were made in March should be potted off. Camellias may be also budded or inarched in this month. It may here be observed, that whenever cuttings of woody plants are made at this season, they should be taken off at the junction between the old wood and the new; and they generally grow so readily, that if pots be scarce, they may be planted in rich earth in a warm border, provided they are closely covered with a hand-glass. In making cuttings of camellias, orange and lemon trees, the sweet-scented daphne, and other woody greenhouse plants, however, pots should be preferred; and they are found to strike soonest if the even base of the cutting is made to rest against the earthenware bottom of the pot; and in this way much larger cuttings can be struck than could be done by any other mode.

In the vinery, the principal duty of the gardener is to keep a dry atmosphere while the grapes are ripening, and to guard against wasps and other insects. At this season, some gardeners cut off the side shoots of their vines.

AUGUST.

In the pleasure-ground and shrubbery the strong shoots of the coarser-growing shrubs should be shortened, or they will overpower the weaker ones. It is a very common fault, in planting shrubberies, to place choice and delicate shrubs near common coarse-growing ones, and then, in a few years, surprise is expressed that the valuable shrubs have vanished, and only the common kinds remain. The seed-vessels of the roses, rhododendrons, and other flowering shrubs, should be taken off as soon as the flowers have fallen, in order to prevent the ripening of the seeds, which would weaken the plants. If the flowers of all shrubs were removed as soon as the petals have fallen, the plants would not only be strengthened, but in many cases a second crop would be produced. Towards the end of the month, evergreen shrubs may be transplanted if they have completed their spring growth. Holes should be dug for re-planting before the plants are taken up, as evergreens should not be kept out of the ground a moment longer than can be avoided; the drying of their roots being very injurious to them. As large a ball of earth should be taken up with the plants as possible; and as soon as the plants are put into their places and a little earth thrown upon their roots, a quantity of water should be poured in through an old birch broom, a colander, or anything that will break the force of the water and prevent it from washing the earth away from the roots, and yet permit a sufficient quantity to be given to make the ground around the roots a kind of puddle. As soon as the watering has dried up a little, the earth should be filled in to the level of the ground, though it should not then be trodden; but after remaining four-and-twenty hours, it may be trodden down quite firm, and afterwards the surface dressed with a rake. In about a fortnight, if the weather should be dry, a good soaking of water should be given to the plants; and if the ground sinks at all, it should be filled up again level to the surface. If the weather should continue hot and dry, another thorough watering should be given at the end of another fortnight; and these waterings may be repeated occasionally, if they should be rendered necessary by the season, observing, however, that it is better to water the plants very seldom, and to give them a large quantity of water at a time, than to water them often, and to give them but a little each time.

In the flower-garden there is very little to be done. The flowering plants should be watered if they appear to droop; and the layers that were made from the carnations and pinks should be potted.

The greenhouse plants in the open air should be regularly watered every evening; and the auriculas may be repotted. Among the new plants that flower at this season may be mentioned the New Zealand speedwell (*Veronica speciosa*), which was introduced in 1843. It is a very showy plant, growing from three to six feet high, and producing large spikes of dark purple flowers. Though so lately introduced, it is already marked in some of the nurserymen's catalogues at eighteen-pence a plant. It is very nearly hardy, but it succeeds better when planted in a conservatory than in the open air, unless it is in a warm sheltered situation.

In the vinery, the grapes will now be ripe, and moisture and dust should both be guarded against till they are cut. As soon as the grapes are all removed, the leaves of the vines should be well syringed, and the plants watered at the roots.



VERONICA SPECIOSA.

SEPTEMBER.

In this month the principal thing to be attended to in the shrubbery is to endeavour as much as possible to harden the tender trees and shrubs; and the only way to do this is to keep the roots as dry as possible, and to expose the branches to the full influence of the sun and air. Where half-hardy trees are grown against a flued wall, the fire should be continued at this season, though the

flowers are all over and even the leaves are beginning to fall, in order to ripen the young wood, that it may produce flower-buds for the ensuing year. Tender plants that have been grown in a dry soil, and have had their wood well ripened, will bear a much greater degree of cold than half-hardy plants which have been grown in a damp close situation, with stagnant water about the roots.

In the flower-garden, the annual plants which have done flowering should be pulled up and thrown away, as nothing can have a more wretched appearance than long, dry, leafless stems; and the bed from which they have been removed should be raked smooth. Beds for hyacinths and tulips should be prepared by



ANEMONE JAPONICA.

trenching them two feet or three feet deep, if the soil will admit of that being done without breaking into the sub-soil; and at about eight inches from the surface should be laid a thick stratum of strong loam and rotten manure well mixed. The beds should then be filled up with lighter loam, and left to settle for four or five weeks. Beds for ranunculuses and anemones are also sometimes prepared at this season, though it is better in most soils to postpone making them till February. There are, perhaps, few genera that have so great a variety in their flowers as the *Anemone*. The common garden anemones, as is well known, are of different shades of pink and purple; the wood anemone is white; the *Anemone palmata* of a brilliant yellow; and *A. apennina* of a celestial blue. But none of these flowers, though they are all beautiful, can be compared in splendour with the *Anemone japonica*, the flowers of which are of a bright

rose colour, and as large as a rose of the kind called *Rosa gallica*. This splendid plant, which is quite hardy, and which grows in favourable situations to the height of three or four feet, was introduced from China, by Mr. Fortune, in the year 1844; and though it was at first kept in the greenhouse, it is now found to produce larger and finer flowers in the open air in this month. In Japan, it is said to be found in damp woods, on the edges of rivulets; but it appears also to grow in mountainous places, both in Japan and China. Though so recently introduced, it may be procured in most of the nurseries at nine-pence a plant.

In the greenhouse, some of the more tender kinds of plants should now be housed, particularly the pelargoniums, the succulent plants, and the oranges and lemons. When the plants are first taken into the house the glasses may be left open night and day, but towards the end of the month they should be closed about five o'clock in the afternoon, and not opened again till about eight the following morning. If vines are grown in the greenhouse, the plants should not be taken into the house till the grapes are all gathered. Greenhouse plants should be pruned and cleaned before they are taken into the house, and well syringed, to clear them from insects. In this month the Cape bulbs should be potted, and put into a cold pit. If any cuttings of hydrangea, or other plants, were made and put into the open border in July, they should now be potted and placed in a cold pit.

Some gardeners prune their vines at this season; as they say the buds are strengthened by their doing so, and a better crop is produced the following year.

OCTOBER.

OCTOBER is rather a busy month for the gardener, as it is the season for laying out grounds, planting shrubberies, &c. Directions have already been given for planting evergreens, and the same plan may be pursued with deciduous shrubs. It is a great but very common fault in planting shrubberies, to place the plants too near each other. The choice plants, that are intended to remain, should be at such a distance as to allow for ten years' growth before they touch, and the intermediate spaces should be filled up with common plants, a few of which should be cut down every year as the other plants grow. By this treatment the shrubbery will never have a bare and desolate appearance, and the fine plants will be allowed to assume their proper forms and habit of growth. Care should also be taken not to plant the shrubs which are to remain too near the walks, as if they are badly placed in this respect, they will, in a few years, either require to be cut in so as to spoil their shapes, or they will overhang the walks so as to destroy half the enjoyment of the garden. When roses are planted, a pit should be dug for each, about two feet deep every way, and very rotten manure or thoroughly decayed leaves should be mixed up with the soil when the roses are planted. Roses that are already in the ground should have very rotten manure or thoroughly decayed leaves laid over their roots, on the surface of the ground. Every fifth or sixth year roses



CESTRUM AURANTIACUM.

should be taken up and their roots shortened, after which they should be replanted in fresh and very rich soil.

Hyacinths, tulips, crocuses, and several other bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants grown in the open ground, should be planted at this season, the hyacinths and tulips being planted in the beds prepared for them in September.

All the greenhouse plants should now be taken into the houses, and those plants which have done flowering should have as little water as possible, so as to prevent them from drooping; while, on the other hand, the chrysanthemums, and other plants which have not yet flowered, should have a great deal of water at this season, to assist them in perfecting their buds. The cuttings which were made of greenhouse plants intended for the open border the following summer, should now be put into cold pits to preserve them during the winter. The Cape bulbs, and the bulbs of *Agapanthus*, *Crinum*, and the beautiful Japan lilies, may now be potted and placed in a cold pit, where they will flower about the same time as those will do which are planted the following spring in a hot-bed. *Cestrum aurantiacum*, or the orange-coloured cestrum, is an exceedingly beautiful greenhouse plant, which was introduced by Mr. Skinner, from Guatemala, in 1843. Its flowers, though they are called orange-coloured, are, in fact, of the colour of a ripe apricot, a very unusual tint among flowers, and they have a strong perfume of orange-peel. They remain a long time on the tree without fading, and when they drop they are succeeded by snow-white pear-shaped berries, which are almost as ornamental as the flowers. The leaves are also very handsome, and of a dark shining green. The genus *Cestrum* was comparatively little known before the introduction of this beautiful plant; it belongs to the nightshade family.

NOVEMBER.

In the pleasure-ground and shrubbery the dead leaves should be swept up as they fall and carried to some place where they can lie to rot, being turned over occasionally while they are in a state of decay. If there is no snow on the ground the gravel walks may be raked over to destroy the moss, and then rolled; and the lawn may be rolled.

Roses should be pruned at this season when they are intended to flower early, and each kind requires a different mode of pruning, as mentioned in April. It must be observed, however, that only the hardy roses will bear pruning at this season. The Scotch roses, the sweet briars, and the various kinds of climbing roses, should have only the tips of their shoots shortened; and the Bourbon and China roses, &c., should not be pruned till spring. Even at this season some shrubs are in flower in the open air; and amongst them may be mentioned *Garrya elliptica*, a handsome evergreen shrub, a native of the western coast of North America. The plant was introduced by Douglas in 1828, and it was long supposed to be the only species in the genus, the genus itself being so distinct that it cannot be placed in any known order. Lately, however, two or three other species have been introduced. For some years this plant continued scarce and dear, so that in 1834 plants were a guinea each: but they have now been so much increased by the quantities of seed imported, that they may be obtained at eighteen-pence each.

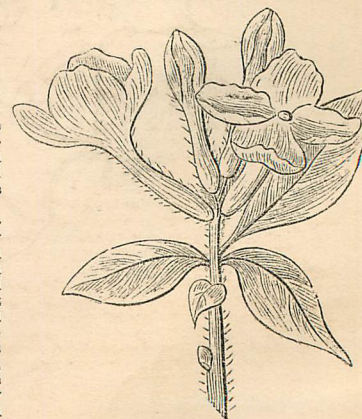
There is scarcely anything to do in the flower-garden, except that tulips, hyacinths, crocuses, and some other similar bulbs, may still be planted if they were neglected in October.

DECEMBER.

VERY little can be done in the garden at this season, as the ground is generally covered with snow. As long as the frost continues the snow is not injurious to plants, but rather beneficial to them, as it serves as a covering to keep them warm; but as soon as it begins to melt, it should be thrown off the flower-beds and lawn, as snow water is so particularly cold and chilling that it will kill not only delicate flowering plants but the finer kinds of grasses.

In the flower-garden the half-hardy plants will only require to be protected; and in the greenhouse and cold pit the same rules must be attended to as in November.

Daphne Fortunei is a beautiful greenhouse plant, very nearly allied to the common Mezereon, which flowers in England in December and January, though in China it is in full flower in March and April. It is at present extremely rare, but as it appears to strike freely from cuttings, it will probably soon become sufficiently abundant to try if it will stand the English winters in the open air, in which case it will probably blossom at the same time as in China. It was introduced in 1844 by Mr. Fortune.



DAPHNE FORTUNEI.



THE HOURS LEADING OUT THE HORSES OF THE SUN.

Calendars, Almanacks, Wakes, and Fairs.

In former times, when the parish priest could scarcely con his missal, and when the felon who could read his "neck verse" was allowed the benefit of clergy, from his thus giving legal proof of his being a "clerk"—"*legit ut clericus*;" when a knowledge of the first four rules of simple arithmetic was a sufficient qualification for the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer; and when the wise man who could predict an eclipse of the sun or moon, always lay under the suspicion of practising the black art, what kind of Almanack was in use, and how did the husbandman mark the times of earing and of harvest, of sheep-washing and sheep-shearing, and of Wakes, Fairs, and Church Ales—matters in which he was deeply interested, both on the score of business and of pleasure?

It is unnecessary, here, to enter into any disquisition respecting the etymology of the word "Almanack," or the time when it began to be popularly used in Europe; it may be sufficient to remark that the thing, under the name of a Calendar, was known in this country at an early period; and that, in its general arrangement, the Calendar prefixed to a book of prayers, about the time of the Conquest, differed but little from a common Almanack of the time of James I. In some of those ancient Calendars there was a drawing at the commencement of each month, showing how the husbandman was usually employed at that particular period. For instance, in JANUARY, which the Saxons called *Giul aftera*—the month after Yule, or Christmas—there was the figure of a man drinking from a horn, representing the New Year festivities. FEBRUARY, *Sproutkele* (cabbage-sprouting), or *Solmonath*, Cake Month—a man sitting idly on a bench, at the door of a house, the weather not yet permitting him to pursue his labour regularly. MARCH, *Lenct Monath*, Spring Month—a man digging. APRIL, *Oster or Easter Monath*, the month in which Christ's *eastering* or rising from the dead was commemorated—a man pruning a tree. MAY, *Trinilki*, Three Milkings, from the cows being milked thrice a day in that month, during the flush of the grass—a man pruning a vine. JUNE, *Weyd Monath* and *Mede Monath*, Meadow Month—a man wedding. JULY, *Hey Monath*, Hay Month—a man mowing. AUGUST, *Arn Monath*, Harvest Month—a man reaping. SEPTEMBER, *Gerst Monath*, Grist or Grinding Month—a man thrashing out corn for grinding. OCTOBER, *Wyne Monath*, Wine or Vintage Month—a man pouring wine from a flagon into a drinking cup. NOVEMBER, *Wind Monath*, Windy Month, also *Blut Monath*, as in this month they killed their cattle and swine for winter provision—a man killing a pig. DECEMBER, *Winter Monath*, and *Giul eora*, Ere or First Yule—a company feasting, indicative of the festivities of Christmas or Yule.

In those old Calendars, the names of the saints were inserted under their respective commemoration days; and such days as were more particularly observed by the Church as high festivals, were distinguished by being written in red ink, and hence the term "red-letter day," signifying a holiday. As the deaths of kings, popes, bishops, abbots, and other eminent persons, and also the dates of memorable events, were frequently inserted in those Calendars, they thus became, to a certain extent, Historical Recordors as well as Remembrancers of Times and Seasons. The introduction of astronomical observations and computations into the Calendar was probably owing to the circumstance of Easter Sunday having to be reckoned from the first new moon that occurred after a certain day. As Astronomy and Astrology were intimately associated in popular opinion, prognostications of the weather, and predictions of political events—"founded on the aspects of the heavenly bodies"—followed as a matter of course; but the seers were so frequently wrong in their foretellings, that "to lie like an almanack-maker" was proverbial in the time of Queen Elizabeth, long ere the art of "figure-fingering" had attained the *ne plus ultra* of systematic mendacity in the person of William Lilly.

The oldest printed Almanacks appear to be those called "Wand Kalendars"—Wall Calendars, or, as we now call them, "Sheet Almanacks"—engraved on wood, in the manner of block-books, and printed in Germany, about 1470. Till about the close of the fifteenth century, it would seem that this branch of the cheap book trade was chiefly in the hands of wood-engravers, who at that period appear to have travelled from place to place for the purpose of vending their productions. Previous to the introduction of printed Almanacks, "Clog Almanacks" were in common use in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and England, and continued to be used by the poorer classes, and such as could not read, until comparatively recent times. These Almanacks obtained their distinctive name from their being formed of a Clog or piece of wood, on which were cut various marks, indicative of the days of the week and month, and of the Principal Fixed Terms and Festivals. Clog Almanacks inscribed with Runic characters appear to have been known to the people of Northern Europe, previous to their conversion to Christianity.

Dr. Robert Plot, in his "Natural History of Staffordshire" (folio, 1686), gives an engraving of "a Clog, or Staffordshire Porpetual Almanack," together with a copious explanation of it; and an ample account of ancient Danish Calendars, of a similar kind, is to be found in the "*Fasti Danici*" of Olaus Wormius, printed at Copenhagen, 1643. Verstegan, speaking of the Anglo-Saxons, says:—"They used to grave upon certain squared sticks, about a foot length, or shorter or longer as they pleased, the courses of the moons of the whole year, whereby they could always certainly tell when the new moons, full moons, and changes should happen, as also their festival days." In Almanacks of this kind, a period of three months was usually inscribed on each side. The different marks were arranged in three columns; the first column contained the days of the month, in a repeated series of marks, in the same manner as the Dominical

Letters; the second column contained marks corresponding with the Golden Numbers, for the purpose of ascertaining the phase of the Moon; and the third was occupied with emblematical marks, expressive of "tides" and seasons and of the greater festivals and saints' days.

In Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, Runic Calendars were of various forms; sometimes carved on a piece of bone, and sometimes on thin pieces of wood, which were afterwards fastened together at one corner, by means of a peg or a thong, and were thus moveable, like the leaves of tablets. The most common form, however, of such Calendars was that of a staff, either squared at the sides or cylindrical; and the usual name for such a staff was, with the

Danes, *rinstok*, and with the Norwegians, *prinstaf*: the former term, according to Wormius, signifying simply a calendar-staff, and the latter a staff for finding the *prim*, or New Moon. A curious cylindrical staff of this kind was exhibited by Sampson Hodgkinson, Esq., at the meeting of the Archaeological Institute, held at Lincoln, in July, 1848.

It was about three feet eight inches long; and the Calendar was inscribed upon it in two divisions, commencing at the top, and extending down to the bottom, the one-half of the area being occupied with the six months from January to June inclusive, and the other half with the six months from July to December. The characters and emblems inscribed on the division comprising the latter six months are shown in the annexed cuts. The cut on the left shows the months July, August, and September; and that on the right, the months October, November, and December. In the original the inscription is a continuous line.

The marks are arranged in three columns: the column, in which the characters are closest together, shows the days of the month; the second contains the Golden Numbers; and the third and widest contains the emblems of tides, festivals, and saints' days. It may be observed that most of those emblems are not placed exactly under the day of the calendar month to which they belong. In the column of days in the cut to the left, the first character that occurs is that which corresponds with G in our series of Dominical Letters; the second in the same column, that which corresponds with A; the third, B; the fourth, C; the fifth, D; the sixth, E; the seventh, F. All the rest of the days, to the end of December, are thus marked by a repetition of the same series of characters. The commencement of each month is denoted by a circle containing the figures of the Sun and Moon. The months are not lunar; but contain, respectively, the same number of days as our present calendar months. On the characters in the second column, denoting the Golden Numbers, it is unnecessary to make any remark, further than that they are letters of the Runic alphabet, and that they here represent numbers.

The following is an explanation of some of the emblems in the third column, commencing with JULY in the cut to the left, and continuing on through each succeeding month till the end of the year;—JULY: St. Margaret's day, a rake, indicative of the time of hay-harvest. St. Mary Magdalene's day, a kind of vase, representing the vessel containing the precious ointment with which she anointed Christ's feet. St. James's day, two acorns, relating to an ancient northern superstition which, according to Wormius, ascribed the origin of acorns to that day. St. Peter *ad vincula*, a key. AUGUST: St. Laurence, a gridiron, with an instrument like a flail behind it. The Assumption of the Virgin, a crown. St. Bartholomew, a knife, the instrument with which he was flayed. At Croyland Abbey, in former times, it was customary to give away small knives on St. Bartholomew's day. The Decollation of St. John the Baptist, a sword. SEPTEMBER: St. Giles, a pair of sheep-shears, because about that time they usually clipped their sheep. The Nativity of the Virgin, a crown. Holyrood Day, a cross. Michaelmas, the Archangel's trumpet and a pair of scales, denoting the Equinox. St. Francis, a fish, because about this time the fishery was productive. OCTOBER: St. Bridget of Sweden, a wool-card, because about this time the farmers' servants were employed in carding wool. St. Calixtus, a leafless tree, denoting the fall of the leaf. In some calendars the emblem referring to this day was a glove, denoting the increase of the cold. St. Luke, an ox. NOVEMBER: Martinmas, a goose. In former times, the feast of St. Martin, of Tours, was generally commemorated with roast goose at dinner in England; the custom is now chiefly observed at Michaelmas. St. Clement, an anchor with an arrow across the shank. St. Catherine, a wheel. St. Andrew, St. Andrew's cross. DECEMBER: St. Nicholas, a ring, and pastoral staff. Conception of the Virgin, a crown. St. Thomas, a hand, relative to the incredulity of St. Thomas, who declared that he would not believe in the resurrection of Christ, except he should thrust his hand into his side. Christmas tide or Yule, drinking horns, denoting the festivity of the season: the sword crossing the horn which stands singly is the indication of Innocent's day. In the preceding explanation, the emblems are arranged according to the months under which they appear in the engraving, and not with reference to the precise time at which their corresponding festivals are now observed.

In the middle ages, periodical times were marked rather by the occurrence of Saints' days or Festivals than by the days of the month: thus, the sittings of the Courts of Law, and the return of writs, were always regulated by the vigil, morrow, or octave of a particular festival; and by these the tenant paid his rent, either in money or goods, at Christmas, Candlemas, Lammass, Michaelmas, or Martinmas, according to the conditions of his tenure, without any reference to the day of the month on which each festival was kept. Amongst the old Term days, it is believed that May

Day is the only one which is not specifically distinguished by being associated with a festival or office observed by the Church. Though the derivation of Lammas, from *Loaf-mass*, be doubtful, it is evident that the period was originally determined by the celebration of some Mass or other religious office on that particular day. Candlemas, which is the anniversary of the Purification of the Virgin, obtained its popular name from churches and chapels being brilliantly lighted up with tapers, and from tapers and candles being blessed by the priest, on that day. It may here be observed that the word *Mass*, about the etymology of which there have been so many conjectures, is of Gothic origin; and that, in its primary meaning, it is nearly synonymous with the word *Mess*, as still used in the navy to signify a *community* of persons who take their meals together. The Latin word *Communio*, and the Saxon word *Houseling*, are suggestive of the same idea as the word *Mass*. This brings us in regular concatenation to the "*Kermess*"—the Kirk or Church-Mass of the Dutch and Flemings, which is identical in its origin with the English Wake or Feast.

Of the Dutch and Flemish *Kermess* it is not our intention here to speak, further than it may serve to illustrate the origin of the English Wake or Feast. The *Kermess* is a kind of fair, which some attend for business, some for pleasure, and others for the sake of both. It obtained its name, *Kermess*—Kirk-mass, Church-mass—in consequence of its being originally held on the anniversary of the saint to whom the village or parish church was dedicated. The term "*Kirk*," which has erroneously been supposed to be derived from two Greek words, *κρυπτον οίκος*—the House of the Lord—originally signified, with people of both Gothic and Celtic origin, a *circle*, a word which, in fact, is derived from the same root; and as their places of worship were usually *Kirks*, or *Circles*, of stones, the same term continued to be used to signify a place of worship after their conversion to Christianity. The Latin adverb *circum* (Kirk-um) is formed from the same root; and its component parts express the same idea as the English word "*round-about*"—*Kirk*, Celtic, a *round* or *ring*, and *um*, German, *about*.

The institution of the English Wake or Feast was in its origin precisely the same as the Dutch and Flemish *Kermess*; it was a festival held in commemoration of the saint to whom the parish church was dedicated. The difference in the names given to it—Wake and Feast—originated merely from the circumstance of the commemoration being chiefly observed in some places on the *Wake*, *Vigil*, or day preceding the saint's day, and in others on the day itself. Though this be the real origin of the Village Wake or Feast, yet, in later times, the day was not unfrequently changed for various reasons; such as its happening in the time of hay-making or of harvest, when its celebration might interfere with labours which could not be conveniently postponed; or from its happening immediately before or after the Wake of an adjacent parish; or *quodcumque alia ratione*—"for any other reason why." Such is the origin of our Village Wakes and Feasts, which in the progress of society are gradually becoming obsolete.

It was in large country parishes that Wakes and Feasts were usually commemorated with the greatest display: for as on those days all the parishioners were required to attend the parish church, the same as at Christmas and Easter, there was, consequently, a great assemblage in the village where such church happened to be situated; and as the original institution partook more of the anniversary of a jovial roof-raising than of a day of mortification, the natural consequence was that those nominal Wakes and Feasts became Feasts indeed. On those occasions the inhabitants of the "*church town*" were in duty, or in interest, bound to entertain their relations, friends, and customers who lived at a distance. At such times every "*respectable*" man in the village made provision for a crowd of visitors; and even those whom he was most slightly acquainted with, from having rubbed shoulders with them at a fair, were allowed, or rather privileged, on the Feast-day, to partake of his hospitality. When on such occasions the tailor or the weaver gave beef, bread, and a cup of ale of a fortnight old to the shepherd who had looked after his flock of bees on the distant common, he was merely re-paying an obligation. The smith, as a matter of course, was bound to entertain every man in the parish who kept a horse.

Philip Stubbes, in his "*Anatomic of Abuses*," thus speaks of Wakes and Feasts, at the time of the publication of his book, 1583:—

"This is their order therein; every town, parish, and village, some at one time of the year, some at another (but so that every one keep his proper day assigned and appropriate day to itself, which they call their Wake-day), use to make great preparation and ordinance for good cheer. To the which all their friends and kinsfolks, far and near, are invited; where is such gluttony, such drunkenness, such satirity and impletion used as the like was never seen. In so much as the poor men who bear the charges of these Feasts and Wakes are the poorer and keep the worse houses a long time after. And no marvel; for many spend more at one of these Wakes than in all the whole year besides. This makes many a man to trifle and pinch, to run into debt and danger, and finally brings many a one to utter ruin and decay." To the query "From whence sprang these Feasts and Wakes," the author, who was utterly averse to all the institutions of the old Church, and greatly inclined to consider them as Pagan relics, answers as follows:—"I cannot tell, except from the Pagans and Heathen people, who, when they were assembled together, and had offered sacrifices to their wooden gods and blockish idols, made feasts and banquets together before them, in honour and reverence of them, and so appointed the same yearly to be observed in memorial of them for ever. But whencesoever they had their exordium, certain it is that the devil was the father of them, to drown us in perdition and destruction of body and soul; which God forefend."

Wakes and Feasts were not exclusively devoted to eating and drinking; but were also celebrated with sports and pastimes. There was dancing to the pipe and tabor from morn till eve; and after dinner, when the spirits of the champions had been stimulated by beef and bread, and cakes and ale, the wrestling and the cudgel play commenced. The prize for the wrestling was frequently a ram. The miller, in Chaucer's "*Canterbury Tales*," seems to have been a frequent victor in those contests:—

The Miller was a stout carl for the nones,
Full bigge he was of brawn, and eke of bones;
That proved well, for over all he came,
At wrestling he would bear away the ram.

Millers, when they take to the sport, usually prove good wrestlers. One of the most celebrated of the Cumberland wrestlers, recorded in "*Litt's Wrestiana*," was a miller; and his skill in laying men on their back is said to have been chiefly derived from his practice of lifting sacks of flour.

What were called Church Ales appear to have been very nearly allied to Wakes and Feasts. Whatever might have been their original institution, they seem to have been held for the exclusive benefit of the Church. "The manner of them," says Philip Stubbes, "is thus: in certain towns where drunken Bacchus bears the sway, against Christmas and Easter, Whitsunday or some other time, the Church-wardens (for so they call them) of every parish, with the consent of the whole parish, provide half-a-score or twenty quarters of malt, whereof some they buy of the church stock, and some is given them of the parishioners

themselves, every one conferring somewhat, according to his ability; which malt being made into very strong ale or beer, is set to sale, either in the church, or some other place assigned to that purpose. Then when this *Nippitatum*, th's Huff-cap (as they call it), and this nectar of life, is set abroad, well is he that can get the soonest to it, and spend the most at it, for he that sitteth the closest to it and spends the most at it, he is counted the godliest man of all the rest, and most in God's favour, because it is spent upon his Church forsooth: but who either for want can not, or otherwise will not stick to it, he is counted one destitute both of virtue and godliness. In so much, as you shall have many poor men make hard shift for money to spend thereat. And good reason; for being put into this *Corban*, they are persuaded it is meretricious, and a good service to God. In this kind of practice they continue six weeks, a quarter of a year, yea, half a year together, swilling and gulling night and day, till they be as drunk as rats, and as blockish as beasts." The pretext for holding those Church Ales was, to obtain money for the repair of the church, to buy service-books, cups for the celebration of the sacrament, surplices for the parson, and such other necessities. "But," says Stubbes, "who seeth not that they bestow this money upon nothing less than in building and repairing of churches and oratories? For in most places lie they not like swine-cots (pig-styes)? Their windows rent, their doors broken, their walls fallen down, their roof all bare, and what not, out of order? Who seeth not the book of God, rent, ragged, and all betorn, covered in dust, so that this epitaph may be writ with one's finger upon it, *Eccce nunc in pulvere dormio*—'Behold, I sleep in dust!'"

Fairs—like Wakes, Feasts, and Law-days—were, in former times, usually appointed to be held on the anniversary of some saint; and there is reason to believe that in many places, which in course of time had increased from small villages to considerable towns, the Wake or Feast was the origin of the customary fair. Fairs are of great antiquity; and it has been conjectured that, in the southern provinces of France, where we first find them expressly mentioned, they were merely a continuation of the *nundinae*, or periodical markets of the Romans. Sidonius Apollinaris, Bishop of Clermont, who died in 488, speaks of a fair, in one of his epistles addressed to the Bishop of Troyes. During the period of the Crusades, the principal Continental fairs, more especially in France, became of more importance than in former times, both from the number of pilgrims and fighting men who were accustomed to take them on their way to the Holy Land, and from the increased commerce of Europe with the East consequent on those expeditions. As marts for general traffic, the great European fairs, such as those of Troyes, Rheims, Bruges, and Ghent, began to decline from about the latter end of the fifteenth century. At these fairs the Merchant Princes of Italy had their factors, who not only bought and sold on account of their principals, but also acted as bankers, discharging bills of exchange drawn at distant places, and there made payable, and granting others to merchants, who, having disposed of their goods, were either returning homewards, or proceeding, for the purpose of making purchases, to some other fair. In England, at a time when it was unlawful to export the coin of the realm, a merchant intending to visit one of the great Continental fairs, provided himself with a bill of exchange, drawn by an Italian factor upon another agent of his own firm attending the fair in question, and there made payable at sight. As the merchant requiring the bill always paid the money for it, in the first instance, to the drawer, the acknowledgment of its receipt in the bill gave rise to the formal words, "*value received*" in modern bills of exchange on account of goods sold and delivered.

When we first hear of Fairs of considerable importance in this country, they were held either by a Royal grant or through ancient custom; and the profits arising from the tolls and the standings were usually enjoyed either by the feudal superior of the place where the fair was held, or by the abbot and brethren of some neighbouring monastery. As boroughs began to be incorporated, the right of holding fairs, and of enjoying the customary profits, was usually confirmed to the burgesses by charter. To each considerable fair there was attached a court of *pie-poudre*, for the prompt settlement of such disputes as might occur during its continuance. In the reign of Edward IV. an act was passed to prevent encroachments of the courts of *pie-poudre*, "which," says Barrington, in his "*Observations on the more Ancient Statutes*," "like most other courts, wanted to extend its jurisdiction, or, in other terms, the profits arising from it. As these lowest of courts of justice were under the direction of the steward, or auditor of him who had the grant of the fair, the steward, by way of drawing every litigation to his own court, supposed, by an ingenious fiction, that parties who never made any contract at the fair, and who perhaps lived at a great distance, had made the bargain in dispute within the limits of his jurisdiction, and, by this means, claimed consance of the suit." The term *pie-poudre* (*pie* *poudre*) literally signifies "*dusty foot*;" and it is supposed to have been given to the court in question, in consequence of the dusty feet of the suitors. It may, however, be observed that "*dusty-foot*" was an old name for a pedlar; and there is reason to believe that the same class of people were called *pieds-poudreux* in old French, before such courts were instituted, or at least before they had acquired their distinctive name. If this opinion be correct, the pedlar, or travelling merchant, was a "*dusty-foot*," and the Court of *Pie-poudre*, a pedlar's court.

In the middle ages, the principal letter-carriers were traders attending fairs, and pilgrims visiting shrines, holy wells, or other places supposed to enjoy the special favour of some saint. In the 15th century pilgrimages were fashionable; and in those days a visit to the shrine of Saint Thomas a Becket, at Canterbury, or to the Chapel of Our Lady at Walsingham, was not much unlike a trip to Bath about the middle of the last century.

In former times, it was at fairs that the monks purchased many of the commodities which they required; and as they were also extensive landowners, it was on such occasions that they usually sold the produce of their farms, more especially their wool. Before the establishment of a fair and market at Hull, the Abbot of Meux or Melsa, in Holderness, appears to have attended Boston Fair. In the latter part of the reign of Henry III., the Abbot of Melsa was charged with having unlawfully sold, at Boston Fair, one hundred and twenty-nine sacks of wool to foreign merchants, at a time when the exportation of wool was forbidden to such merchants, in consequence of a dispute between the King of England and the Countess of Flanders. Even the canons of Bolton Abbey, in the retired vale of Wharfe, were accustomed to make purchases of wine, cloth, and other articles, at Boston Fair. This fair, and also that of Stourbridge, appear to have been attended by manufacturers of woollen cloth from the distant town of Kendal, who, after disposing of their goods, invested the proceeds in the purchase of various articles which either might be required in their own neighbourhood, or which might be likely to meet with a ready sale in the course of their journey homeward. Travelling merchants, in their progress to a distant fair, frequently received commissions at the abbays and castles where they were accustomed to call, to make purchases on account of the owners and their dependants.

In the mythology of Greece and Rome, Apollo, typified as the Sun, was the great ruler of the year, and the personified seasons (*ἔρα*, Hours) were his attendants. In the cut (on page 58) he has twelve attendants, the personified hours of the artificial day.

HINTS FOR THE TABLE.

BY M. SOYER.

AMONGST all the tribulations of the table, carving is not the least of them. "If you should, unhappily, be forced to carve at table," says Launcelot Sturgeon, in his "Essays, Moral, Philosophical, and Stomachic," "neither labour at the joint until you put yourself into a heat, nor make such desperate efforts to dissect it as may put your neighbours in fear of their lives; however, if any accident should happen, make no excuses, for they are only an acknowledgement of awkwardness." As an instance of this, we remember to have seen a man of high fashion deposit a turkey in this way on the lap of a lady; but, with admirable composure, and without offering the slightest apology, he finished a story which he was telling at the same time, and then, quietly turning to her, merely said, "Madam, I'll thank you for that turkey!" My conscience will not allow me to swear to the authenticity of the fact; but, in the course of twelve months past, I have witnessed a very similar instance; only the party, not possessing the assurance of the fashionable above mentioned, did not continue the conversation, but, in his nervous anxiety, endeavouring to replace it on the dish with vivacity, sent it rolling across the table to his right-hand neighbour; who, quickly perceiving the imminent danger in which he was placed, fortunately arrested its further progress with his fork. One hearty laugh of the remaining party terminated this scene of confusion.

After a short consideration, I found, by a most simple rule, and with the greatest facility, that a bird that would take ten minutes to carve very badly, may be done well in two or three, by the most inexperienced person. From this process a number of advantages may be derived; first, you may eat your dinner much hotter; secondly, you can make eight or ten pieces of a fowl, or any other bird, where previously great difficulty was experienced in making five or six, and each person will thereby be enabled to choose a favourite piece; and a large bird—such as turkey, poularde, capon, &c.—will be fit to re-appear on your table in a very inviting state. I must also observe that the birds are not in the least disfigured; but, on the contrary, their appearance is much improved. Formerly, nothing was more difficult to carve than wild-fowl, the continual motion (when alive) of the wings and legs making the sinews almost as tough as wires, puzzling the best of carvers to separate them. My new method for small birds has quite abolished such a domestic tribulation, by separating, with a long pointed pair of scissors, the sinews which join the wing to the breast, and also jointing the legs under the skin, as explained below for larger birds. The separation of the joints may be easily effected; and having thus detached the four principal parts, the carving, when roasted, will be very simple. But for the jointing of turkeys, geese, capons, &c., the tendon separator, made by Braham and Prestage, Piccadilly, will be found a happy relief to carvers. Its object is to relieve carvers, more or less proficient; and must become indispensable for the use of all cooks and poulterers in disjoining the volatile species, previous to trussing, roasting, or boiling.

The simplicity of the operation will easily convince any one that the tendon-separator possesses all that is required to remove awkwardness in carving, the only necessity being to divide the tendons in the joints, the toughness of which is the difficulty to be overcome, and often abandoned to make a desperate cut at the bones: hence arise the accidents above mentioned.

When about separating the tendons, and otherwise dividing other parts of a fowl, you begin by turning the skin over the wings, and cutting the tendons of each of the joints; and then, by taking hold of the part commonly called the drumstick with your left hand, and the skin being already turned, you can easily get at the joint, by making it come out, to cut the tendons of each leg. On turning the separator with the points upwards, you give a cut at the breast-bone; and by holding the instrument with both hands, immediately after turning the points downwards, you also give a cut at the back-bone; and then, the four tendons being cut, the limbs are brought back to their former position. Then you introduce the instrument into the body at the other end of the bird, and with your left hand you take hold of the thigh-bone, which you also divide; and again turning the point downwards, you give another cut at the back-bone. With little practice, the cuts at the breast and back-bone are made without interfering in the least with the skin. Then you truss the bird in the common way; but a packing-needle and thread are to be preferred. When roasted, the appearance of the poultry is vastly improved by this simple operation. It looks more plump, on account of the sinews having lost their power of contraction whilst roasting; therefore, when the bird comes to table, the carver has merely to pass the knife in the usual manner to take up the wings and legs, and finds no resistance; the same at the breast and back, where it may easily be seen, whilst carving, that it has already been prepared.

Three minutes is about the time taken, by this new process, to cut into ten parts an ordinary fowl.

For a turkey or a goose the sinews are divided as above; and in the act of carving, instead of cutting the filets in a straight line with the breast-bone, you separate them obliquely, and all other parts as usual.

Pheasants, ducks, and all wild fowl especially, must be prepared in a similar manner.

A hare or rabbit may also have the sinews and back-bone divided: to effect this, you lay the hare upon its back and give six cuts nearly through the back-bone, holding the separator with both hands, through the belly part; then you truss it for roasting. If it should happen to be a very large hare, the filets only are carved, and they ought to be cut in thin slices in an oblique direction, instead of straight along the back.

Respecting the carving of any description of joints, it may be more easily explained. For a saddle of mutton or lamb, proceed as follows:—Commence by passing your knife down the back, where nothing but the meat and skin holds it together, and from thence crosswise to the flap, serving a cutlet and a slice between to each person, continuing the same way through the saddle. You will thus carve the meat according to the grain, and produce fresh hot gravy for each person as you proceed carving. Should any remain, it is fit either to be sent cold to table, or dressed otherwise advantageously.

The saddle-back of mutton I prefer, is composed of the two loins and two necks, trimmed into the form of a double saddle, without interfering in the least with the legs and shoulders, which would cause a serious loss to the butcher.

A round of beef, when upon the table, must be carved with a regular round of beef knife (very sharp), in slices not exceeding the thickness of a crown piece, assisting each guest to a slice: also, give one-third fat, with a little of the carrot and turnip; but never dig the under-done part from the centre to oblige any one, for they that cannot eat from a joint well cooked and fairly carved, are not worthy of having one set before them. Some persons like them, when salted, to cut red quite through. I do not admire it; but it is done by adding two ounces of sal prunella and half a pound of saltpetre to every fifteen pounds of salt used in pickling. When a round of beef is very large, some persons place a tin tube in the centre to boil it. I do not think it a bad plan, as it causes it to cook more regularly.

Amongst the number of joints, boiled to serve cold at the large civic, agricultural or benevolent anniversary dinners, the round of beef is the most prominent, and commonly left standing in dishes to get cold, which are soon filled with the gravy that runs from it, particularly if a little over-done. To remedy this, the following expedient will prevent the meat losing so much of its succulence:—Fill two large tubs with cold water, into which throw a few pounds of rough ice; and when the round is done, throw it, cloth and all, into one of the tubs of ice water; let it remain one minute, when take out and put it into the other tub: fill the first tub again with water, and continue the above process for about twenty minutes; then set it upon a dish, leaving the cloth on until the next day, or until quite cold. When opened, the fat will be as white as possible, besides having saved the whole of the gravy. If no ice, spring water will answer the same purpose, but will require to be more frequently changed. The same mode would be equally successful with the aitchbone.

For the ribs or sirloin of beef, pass the knife between the chine-bone and the flesh, to about an inch in depth, but only to about the length you think sufficient to cut as many slices from as you may require: then, having a sharp knife, cut off the outside slice very thinly; hold your knife a little in a slanting direction, and continue cutting thin slices from the chine to the ends of the sirloin in the dish as you carve. If a slice from the filets is required, turn it over with a couple of forks; carefully part some of the fat which covers it, if too much: then cut short slices in a slanting direction, as if from the breast of a fowl, instead of crosswise; for then, if clumsily carved and over-done, it has a strong resemblance to an old strap.

For a rump of beef, either roasted or stewed, always commence at the fattest end, carving in a slanting direction: by which means you will obtain a correct quantity of that delicate article, if even you should be carving for twenty people; whilst, by cutting straight across, some would have the greater proportion fat, and the remainder nothing but lean. Any other piece of beef rolled and stewed, and filets of beef, as served for a remove, all require to be carved in a slanting direction.

For a fillet of veal, proceed in the same manner as directed for a round of beef.

A loin of veal, if cut straight at the commencement, is entirely spoiled; but when carved slantingly from the best end, and eaten with its own gravy, nothing could be nicer; the remainder is then also very good cold. Even the kidney ought to be served the same; and the breast, either roasted or stewed, requires the same style of carving.

For legs of mutton or lamb, I also proceed in a new way. The frill, which is placed upon the knuckle-bone, is not only intended to ornament the leg, but likewise to enable you to hold the bone with your left hand, and carving with the right, which would wonderfully facilitate the operation. Instead of cutting across the middle, which opens all parts at once, thus losing a great deal of the succulence, I commence carving at about two inches from the knuckle, beginning with the heel of the knife, drawing it along to the point, cutting six or eight slices at once, more or less if required: then pass the knife beneath the whole, detaching them from the bone, thus helping each person quickly, and with very hot meat. The gravy remaining in the meat will keep it moistened, in good order for cold; whilst, in the general manner, you have nothing but dry meat, or if under-done, on purpose for cold, the meat will always have a black appearance. This is my way of carving at home; but if objectionable to take the frill with the fingers, make use of the carving-fork. At home I never allow any gravy to be put into the dish, but served separately, in a boat; and if the meat is of good quality, and well roasted, it will supply an abundance of good gravy. If for the table of the wealthy, commence carving the leg nearer to the centre, but always in a slanting direction.

For shoulders of mutton or lamb to eat well and delicate, the fat and lean must be well mixed in serving; to accomplish which, the joint must be carved in a still more slanting direction than the legs, also beginning rather nearer to the knuckle.

For the necks and loins of mutton, never separate the bones of either with a chopper, or you will partially mutilate the meat, thus losing all the gravy in roasting, and frequently have great difficulty in carving; but separate the joints with a small saw, as neatly as possible, cutting in the direction you require to carve.

For ribs of lamb, which should be properly prepared for carving before being roasted, having the centre of the bones broken, with the chine-bone detached, to carve, you must, of course, follow the bones, which run rather slantingly, helping each person to a cutlet from the neck, with a slice from the breast, but not cut too thick. By following this plan, each person will have partaken of the breast, which, without contradiction, is the most delicate part (but which is most frequently left to be eaten when dry and cold); and if any remain, being evenly carved, it will be very presentable at table the next day.

To carve a ham, proceed as directed for the carving of a leg of mutton, commencing two inches from the knuckle, cutting very thin and delicate slices, slanting more and more as you proceed, or you will have nothing but fat left at the extremity.

To carve an ox tongue, stick your fork into the root, and cut a thin slice off, placing the heel of the knife upon it, which draw along to the point, thus taking the slice off in one cut, leaving it upon the dish, and serving the inner slices, cut in the same manner, but very thin and delicate; you will thus have carved the best part of it easily, without disfiguring the whole, still having a decent piece remaining to send up cold; but if you had commenced in the middle, you would at once spoil the appearance, and the remainder would eat dry when cold.

Nothing is more creditable to a carver, than leaving a piece of either meat, game, or poultry fit to re-appear at table in an inviting state.

HAUNCH OF VENISON.

How to serve eighteen or twenty persons:—Take off the flat bone, previous to roasting, at the back of the loin, and pass the knife from the knuckle all along the lower part of the flap, which is left about two inches wide; then begin to cut in a slanting direction from the beginning of the loin, through the leg as far as the knuckle, without reserving a well for the gravy, and, in fact, it is better, as every slice you cut through the leg produces its own gravy, boiling hot, which unavoidably gets cold in the well formed the other way of carving. Do not omit to save some fat for the next day, as your hash or pie would be insipid without.

Haunch of mutton or lamb may be carved either way.

For necks of venison, pass your knife across the lower part of the ribs, about four inches below the thickest part; then cut slices in a slanting direction, not interfering with the bone, as previously explained for shoulders of mutton.

Never let your guests sit down to table without acquainting them beforehand with the bill of fare, that is, if the dinner be a ceremonious one, because the great variation placed on the table is to give a choice to the different taste of the company. By selecting a few favourite dishes, digestion is rendered more easy, being then aided by the fancy of each individual: but should you be helped of a dish which does not meet with your approval, though, at the same time, you feel yourself constrained by politeness to eat of it, your dinner is spoiled, and you do no justice to the bountiful supply of your Amphitryon.

In domestic cookery, it is necessary to know, that however humble the means

of the individual may be, the food should be varied daily, if possible. Never dine two days on the same joint, without dressing it each day in a different manner. A plain joint, hot one day, may be served cold the next, particularly in summer—it is then excusable; but, by all means, the third day make a hash, as follows:—

HASH MUTTON.—Cut about a pound and a half of meat into thin slices, using a small quantity of fat; lay them upon a dish, sprinkle a spoonful of flour, a tea-spoonful of salt, and a quarter ditto of pepper; place the meat in a stewpan, moisten with half a pint of water, or light broth if handy: add a little colouring to give it a nice brown colour. Place it upon the fire, allowing it to warm gently, stirring occasionally, simmering a quarter of an hour. Taste if more seasoning be required; if so, add a little, and serve very hot immediately. In making hash of any description, avoid having the keeping of it hot, or it would become greasy; and likewise prevent the hash boiling over the fire, which would cause the meat to eat hard and tough. To vary any description of hash, it may be served upon a large piece of buttered toast, or half a spoonful of chopped onions may be added with the flour and seasoning. Chopped parsley may also be added, with a spoonful of catsup, two of Harvey sauce, two of vinegar, or one of Chili vinegar: four nice green gherkins, in slices, may also be added at the time of serving. Some fresh mushrooms from the fields, cleaned, and stewed in the hash, is also a great improvement. A bay leaf also added imparts a pleasant flavour.

TO MAKE COFFEE ECONOMICALLY.

Buy your coffee not over-burnt; grind it at home, if possible; have a middle-sized filter, which holds a little more than a quart; pour about a pint of boiling water into the filter to heat it through, then empty it, and put a quarter of a pound of ground coffee on the filter; then put on the presser, and lastly the grating; then pour about half a pint of quite boiling water over it, put the cover on, and let it drain through. After three or four minutes, pour, by degrees, a pint and a half more boiling water, and when well passed through, pour it from the filter into a very clean stewpan; set it on the corner of the fire; and when a little white scum rises to the surface (not letting it boil), pour it a second time over the filter, and when passed through, pour either into a silver *cafetière* or the cups. Serve boiling milk or cream in two small jugs; and white, or brown, or candied sugar. As soon as the coffee is poured from the coffee-pot, I put another quart of boiling water over it. This saves one ounce of coffee, by boiling it instead of water, and pouring it over as before.

TO MAKE A COLOURING OR BROWNING FROM SUGAR.

Put two ounces of white powdered sugar into a middle-sized stewpan, which place over a slow fire; when beginning to melt, stir round with a wooden spoon until getting quite black; when set in a moderate oven, upon a trivet, for about twenty minutes; pour a pint of cold water over, let dissolve, place in a bottle, and use when required.

Never put salt, mustard, or any kind of sauces on your plate, without having previously tasted your food. It is not only a great breach of politeness towards your host, but an insult to the culinary artist; because that which is placed on the table as a made dish, is supposed to be seasoned to perfection. But, as very often this is not the case, then, after you have tasted it, you are at liberty to suit your own palate, which part of the human frame is as varied as the physiognomy.

When you help at table never give more than two or three slices of meat, cut thin. Carve everything in a slanting direction. A good carver ought never to ask if any person likes their meat well done or underdone, as you disfigure the joint at once: such fancies cannot be tolerated, except at the tables of the wealthy; for the million, it is a waste of £70 a year, when only seven or eight in family.

Have your vegetables, no matter how plainly dressed, always well done; the crudity of such aliments is unwholesome, and apt to destroy the coating of the stomach, that being the most delicate part of the digestive organs. Be also contented with one sort of vegetable on your plate at a time, potatoes excepted.

The greatest compliment a guest can pay to his host, is to ask to be served a second time of the same dish, though not above half the quantity first served should be given.

If by chance you should spill any sauce or gravy in carving, do not apologise; it is only calling the attention of the company to your awkwardness, which, without remark, might pass unnoticed.

Never cut up a fowl, or any kind of bird, at once, without knowing how many persons are going to partake of it: the proper manner is to ask each person, and then to help them separately.

Never remove any dish which has been placed on the table by a servant, however awkwardly it may be set. It is not your business to serve at your own table; rather let your servant look awkward than yourself, by his placing it over and over again before it is right.

Never press any one to take more food or wine than they appear to wish; it annoys your guests, and, whilst you make yourself too cheap, you also make it too common.

Never put more than one wine-glass before each guest at the commencement of dinner; have the others ready, and place them as required. It saves confusion; and often relieves a person from great distress, who, by chance, may not be acquainted with the different glasses which each sort of wine requires.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF WARD'S CASES FOR THE GROWTH OF FERNS, &c.

It is often asked, what are the best species of Fern, &c., to form a lasting, graceful, and effective group for those elegant little cases now so frequently seen in the windows of most houses? To this we reply, that the following arrangements will produce all that can be desired:—For the centre, a *Chamaerops humilis*, the dwarf palm of the South of Europe; covering the ground at the base of its stem are the delicate and beautiful little ferns, *Hymenophyllum Tunbrigense* and *H. Wilsoni*; while *Adiantum capillus-veneris*, *A. formosum*, *Asplenium marinum*, *Platys longifolia*, *Scelopendrium vulgare*, *Aneides fraxinifolia*, *Cassebeeria hastata*, and the beautiful *Trichomanes speciosum* are other forms of ferns whose variously-shaped fronds contrast well with one another. Under the shadow of the ferns, several *Jungermannia* grow luxuriantly; and the *Oxalis acetosella* thrives wonderfully in the company of its cryptogamic neighbours, while *Lycopodium denticulatum* and *L. stoloniferum* surround the whole with a perennial hedge of verdure. Besides these, *Macrillaria rufescens*, an epiphytial orchid, has attached itself to the rough bark of a piece of suspended elder branch; and, in order that no space may remain unemployed, the husk of a cocoa-nut has been filled with earth, and hung in the dome at the top, and from this may be seen descending the graceful fronds of various pendulous ferns and lycopodiums.

When the case is small and close, a single watering at the time of setting the plants will generally be sufficient for nine or twelve months, or even longer. When the case is large, however, a freer application of water will be necessary.

GENERAL POSTAL REGULATIONS, &c.

RATES OF POSTAGE.—All letters from one part of Great Britain to another (including the Local Penny Posts and the London Twopenny Post) are charged, if prepaid, and not

Exceeding half an ounce	..	..	..	1d.
Exceeding half an ounce, and not exceeding one ounce	..	..	..	2d.

and so on, at the rate of 2d. for every additional ounce or fraction of an ounce. Unpaid and unstamped letters are charged double postage on delivery.

HOURS OF POSTING FOR THE EVENING MAILS.—The Receiving-Houses close at 5 30 P.M.; but letters are received for the evening's dispatch until 6 P.M., if an extra penny stamp is affixed. The Branch Post-offices at Charing Cross, Old Cavendish-street, and 108, Blackman-street, Southwark, receive letters until 6 P.M., and until ½ to 7 P.M. by affixing an additional penny stamp. At the Branch Post-Office in Lombard-street, the box remains open without additional fee until 6 P.M., and until 7 P.M. by affixing a penny stamp. At the General Post-Office in St. Martin's-le-Grand until 6, free; and until 7, by payment of the extra charge as at Lombard-street. From 7 to half-past 7 P.M., letters may be posted at the General Post-office upon payment of a fee of sixpence each, which must, as well as the postage, be pre-paid. Letters intended to pass by outward mails to foreign parts must be posted at the above hours.—N.B. Newspapers for the evening mails must be put into the Receiving-Houses before 5 P.M., the Branch offices before 5 30, or General Post Office, before 6 P.M. From 6 P.M. to 7 30, on payment of one-halfpenny late fee; except newspapers for foreign parts, which must be posted at the General Post-Office and Branch Offices before 6 P.M., and at the Receiving-Houses before 5 P.M.

MORNING MAILS are forwarded to most of the principal towns in England and Wales, and to all parts of Ireland and Scotland, for which the letter-boxes at the Receiving-Houses will be open till 7 A.M. for newspapers, and ½ to 8 A.M. for letters; and at the Branch Offices, Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and the Borough, for newspapers until half-past 7 A.M., and for letters until 8 A.M. At the General Post-Office and the Branch Office in Lombard-street, the boxes will close for newspapers at a quarter before 8 A.M., and for letters at half-past 8 A.M.

Any SINGLE BOOK or PAMPHLET can now be sent through the Post-Office to any part of the United Kingdom if not exceeding 16 oz. in weight, and open at both ends, by affixing six postage stamps; if above 16 oz. 1s., and 6d. for every additional pound or fraction of a pound. The Postmaster-General does not guarantee the delivery of books and pamphlets with the same accuracy and regularity as newspapers and letters, but in no case will the delivery be delayed more than 24 hours after the usual post.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL PAPERS between British Colonies, without passing through the United Kingdom, to be free; except that 1d. may be allowed as a gratuity to the master of the vessel conveying them.

NEWSPAPERS, BRITISH, FOREIGN, OR COLONIAL, passing between British or Colonial and Foreign Ports, and through the British post, to pay 2d.; if not through the British post, 1d.

NEW POSTAGE STAMPS intended principally for the pre-payment of foreign letters have been issued. They are of the value of one shilling each, the colour being green, and the form octagonal, to distinguish them easily from the smaller denomination of postage stamps at present in use. These stamps may be used for inland as well as foreign postage, but they are chiefly intended for the postage of letters to the United States, India, China, the West Indies, New South Wales, New Zealand, and other places to which the postage is one shilling.

PACKAGES which in length, breadth, or width exceed twenty-four inches, cannot be forwarded by post between any places within the United Kingdom; except, however, petitions or addresses to her Majesty, or petitions to either House of Parliament forwarded to any Member of either House, or printed votes or proceedings of Parliament, or letters to or from any Government offices or departments.

MONEY ORDERS.—With a view to simplicity and economy in the accounts of the Money Order Office, it has been found necessary to lay down the following rules:—1. Every money order issued on or after the 6th October, 1848, must be presented for payment before the end of the second calendar month after that in which it was issued (for instance, if issued in October, it must be presented for payment before the end of December), otherwise a new order will be necessary, for which a second commission must be paid. 2. As already notified to the public, if an order be not presented for payment before the end of the twelfth calendar month after that in which it was issued (for instance, if issued in October and not presented before the end of the next October), the money will not be paid at all. 3. As, after once paying a money order, by whomsoever presented, the office will not be liable to any further claim, the public are strictly cautioned a. To take all means to prevent the loss of the money order. b. Never to send a money order in the same letter with the information required on payment thereof. c. To be careful, on taking out a money order, to state correctly the Christian name as well as the surname of the person in whose favour it is to be drawn. d. To see that the name, address, and occupation of the person taking out the money order are correctly known to the person in whose favour it is drawn. 4. Neglect of these instructions will lead to delay and trouble in obtaining payment, and even risk the loss of the money. These instructions, together with some others of minor importance, will be found printed on every money order.

THE LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.

The new Act of Parliament to empower the Commissioners of the Court of Bankruptcy to order the release of bankrupts from prison in certain cases, which took effect on the 31st of August, 1848, has just been printed (11 and 12 Victoria, cap. 86). By this act it is provided that where any person has been adjudged bankrupt, and has surrendered to the fiat, and has obtained his protection from arrest, pursuant to the practice in bankruptcy, if such person shall be in prison at the time of obtaining such protection, any Commissioner acting under such fiat may order his immediate release from prison, either absolutely, or upon such condition as such Commissioner shall think fit, which release is not to affect the rights of creditors detaining him in prison. The second clause is an important one:—"And be it enacted that if any bankrupt whose last examination shall have been adjourned *sine die*, or whose certificate shall have been suspended or refused, shall be in execution, or be taken in execution, under a *capias ad satisfaciendum* at the suit of any creditor who might have proved under the fiat and detained in prison, any Commissioner acting under his fiat may order his release, after he shall have undergone such term of imprisonment, not exceeding two years, as to such commissioner may seem a sufficient punishment for such offence as he may appear to such Commissioner to have been guilty of."

THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY.

THE QUEEN.—VICTORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, was born May 24th, 1819; succeeded to the throne, June 20th, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William IV.; crowned, June 28th, 1838, and married, February 10th, 1840, to his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Majesty is the only daughter of his late Royal Highness Edward Duke of Kent, son of King George III.

His Royal Highness Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emanuel Busici, DUKE OF SAXE, PRINCE OF COBURG AND GOTH, K.G., Consort of her Majesty, born August 26th, 1819.

Her Royal Highness Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, PRINCESS ROYAL, born November 21st, 1840.

His Royal Highness Albert Edward, PRINCE OF WALES, born November 9th, 1841.

Her Royal Highness Alice Maud, born April 25th, 1843.

Her Royal Highness Alfred Ernest Albert, born August 6th, 1844.

Her Royal Highness Princess Helena Augusta Victoria, born May 25, 1846.

Her Royal Highness Princess Louisa Carolina Alberta, born March 18, 1848.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—Amelia Adelaide Louisa Theresa, sister to the reigning Duke of Saxe Meiningen, born August 13th, 1792; married July 11th, 1818; crowned September 8th, 1831.

Ernest Augustus, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND, in Great Britain, and KING OF HANOVER, uncle to her Majesty, born June 5th, 1771, married, August 29th, 1815. Issue, George Frederick.

Adolphus Frederick, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, uncle to her Majesty, born February 24th, 1774; married, May 2nd, 1818, her Serene Highness Augusta Wilhelmina Louisa, youngest daughter of Frederick, Landgrave of Hesse. Issue, three children.

MARY, Aunt to her Majesty, born April 25th, 1776; married, July 22nd, 1816, her cousin, the Duke of Gloucester, deceased.

Victoria Mary Louisa, DUCHESS OF KENT, born August 17th, 1786; married, in 1818, the Duke of Kent (who died January 23rd, 1820); her Majesty's mother.

Augusta Wilhelmina Louisa, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE, niece of the Landgrave of Hesse, born July 25th, 1795; married, in 1818, the Duke of Cambridge, by whom she has issue, George William, Augusta Caroline, and Mary Adelaide.

George Frederick Alexander Charles Ernest Augustus, K.G., only child of the King of Hanover, Prince Royal of Hanover, cousin to her Majesty; born May 27th, 1819; married, February, 1843, Princess Mary of Saxe Altenberg, and has a son.

George Frederick William Charles, K.G., son of the Duke of Cambridge, cousin to her Majesty, born March 26th, 1819.

Augusta Caroline Charlotte Elizabeth Mary Sophia Louisa, daughter of the Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born July 19th, 1822; married, June 28th, 1843, Frederick, Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz.

Mary Adelaide Wilhelmina Elizabeth, daughter of the Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born November 27th, 1832.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

Lord Great Chamberlain	Lord Willoughby D'Eresby
Lord Steward	Earl Fortescue
Lord Chamberlain	Marquis of Breadalbane, K.T.
Vice-Chamberlain	Lord E. Howard
Master of the Horse	The Duke of Norfolk
Clerk Marshal and Chief Equerry ..	Lord Alfred Paget
Treasurer of the Household	Lord Marcus Hill
Comptroller of the Household	Right Hon. W. S. Lascelles
Lord High Almoner	Bishop of Oxford
Sub-Almoner	Rev. E. Goodenough, D.D.
Clerk of the Closet	Bishop of Norwich
Master of the Backstairs	Earl of Besborough
Comptroller of Accounts	Sir William Martins
Master of the Household	Major-General Bowles
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard ..	Marquis of Donegal
Captain of Gentlemen-at-Arms	Lord Foley
	Earl of Listowel, Lord Camoys, Lord Waterpark, Earl Duce, Earl of Morley, Lord Byron, Earl of Morton, Marquis of Ormonde
Lords in Waiting	The Duchess of Sutherland
Mistress of the Robes	Countess of Mount Edgumbe, Marchioness of Douro, Countess of Desart, Countess of Gainsboro', Countess of Charlemont, Viscountess Jocelyn, Viscountess Canning, Lady Portman.
Ladies of the Bedchamber	Charles Locock, Esq., M.D., Sir James Clark, Bart., and W. F. Chambers, Esq., M.D.
Physicians	Sir B. Brodie, Bart., and R. Keate, Esq.
Surgeons	

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

OF THE CABINET.

First Lord of the Treasury (Premier) ..	Lord John Russell
Lord Chancellor	Lord Cottenham
Lord President of the Council	The Marquis of Lansdowne
Lord Privy Seal	The Earl of Minto
Secretaries of State	Sir George Grey, Bart.
	Foreign
	Colonial
Chancellor of the Exchequer	Lord Palmerston
President of the Board of Control	Earl Grey
President of the Board of Trade	The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Wood
First Lord of the Admiralty	Sir J. C. Hobhouse
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster ..	Rt. Hon. H. Labouchere
Chief Commissioner Woods and Forests ..	The Earl of Auckland
Postmaster-General	Lord Campbell
	Earl of Carlisle
	The Marquis of Clanricarde

IRELAND.

Lord Lieutenant	The Earl of Clarendon
Lord Chancellor	The Right Hon. M. Brady
Attorney-General	Right Hon. J. M. Monahan.
Solicitor-General	J. Hatchell, Esq.

SCOTLAND.

Lord High Constable	The Earl of Errol
Lord Privy Seal	Viscount Melville
Lord Advocate	Right Hon. A. Rutherford

GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND OFFICERS.

TREASURY,
WHITEHALL.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS.

Lord J. Russell, Sir Chas. Wood, Bart.
H. Rich, Esq., R. M. Bellew, Esq., W. G. Craig, Esq.

Secretaries, J. Parker, H. Tufnel, Esqs.
Assistant Secretary, Sir C. E. Trevelyan.
Principal Clerk, S. R. Leake, Esq.
Solicitor, G. Maule, Esq.

EXCHEQUER,
WHITEHALL-YARD.

Chancellor, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wood, Bart.

Comptroller, Lord Monteagle
Assistant, A. Eden, Esq.
Chief Clerk, F. T. Ottey, Esq.
Accountant, G. S. Frederick, Esq.

HOME OFFICE,
WHITEHALL.

Secretary of State, Sir George Grey, Bart.
Under-Secretaries, G. C. Lewis, Esq.,
H. Waddington, Esq.

Chief Clerk, T. H. Plasket, Esq.
Private Secretary, H. Brand, Esq.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
DOWNING-STREET.

Secretary of State, Lord Palmerston
Under-Secretaries Lord Eddisbury, H. U. Addington, Esq.

Chief Clerk, G. L. Conyngham, Esq.
Private Secretary, the Hon. Spencer Ponsonby

COLONIAL OFFICE,
DOWNING-STREET.

Secretary of State, Earl Grey
Under-Secretaries, B. Hawes, Esq.,
H. Merivale, Esq.

Assistant Secretary, T. F. Elliot, Esq.
Chief Clerk, Peter Smith, Esq.

Private Secretary, the Hon. Capt. Grey.
IRISH OFFICE,

18, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, WESTMINSTER.
Chief Secretary, the Right Hon. Sir W. M. Somerville, Bart.

Chief Clerk, George Trundle, Esq.
Assistant, Hon. S. D. Montague

Private Secretary, H. Meredyth, Esq.
Counsel, E. Batty, Esq.

BOARD OF TRADE,
WHITEHALL.

President, the Rt. Hon. H. Labouchere
Vice-President, Earl Granville. The

Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cabinet Ministers, and the Right Hon. C. Arbuthnot.

Secretaries, G. R. Porter, Esq., Sir Denis Le Marchant, Bart.

Secretaries Assistants, F. Lock, Esq.,
H. Hobart, Esq.

Private Secretary to the President, T. Baring, Esq.

Assistant Legal Secretary, Stafford H. Northcote, Esq.

BOARD OF CONTROL,
CANNON-ROW, WESTMINSTER.

President, Sir J. Cam Hobhouse, Bart.,
and the Cabinet Ministers

Secretaries, James Wilson, Esq., M.P.,
T. Wyse, Esq.

Private Secretary, T. B. Hobhouse, Esq.
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1849.

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Commissioners, Earl Granville, Sir E. Ryan, Col. Aderson.
Secretary, Capt. H. D. Harness, R.E.

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Francis Wilson, Esq.

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LORD MAYOR.

Elected September 29th—Sworn in November 9th.
The Right Honourable Sir JAMES DUKE, M.P., Farringdon Without, 1840.

SHERIFFS.

Elected 24th June—Sworn in 28th September.
Thomas Quesed Finnis, Esq. | Jacob Emanuel Goodhart, Esq.
UNDER SHERIFFS.
Thos. France, Esq. | D. W. Wire, Esq.

ALDERMEN.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE NOT PASSED THE CHAIR.
Farncomb, Thomas, Esq., Bassishaw; Griffin's Wharf, Southwark .. 1840
Mugrove, John, Esq., Broad-street; 18, Old Broad-street .. 1842
Hunter, William, Esq., Coleman-street; 10, Finsbury Circus .. 1843
Challis, Thomas, Esq., Cripplegate; 32, Wilson-street, Finsbury .. 1843
Sidney, Thomas, Esq., M.P., Billingsgate; 8, Ludgate-hill .. 1844
Moon, F. G. Esq., Portsoken; 20, Threadneedle-street .. 1844
Salomons, David, Esq., Cordwainer, 1, Shorter's-court .. 1848
Finnis, Thomas Quesed, Esq., Tower, Tower-street .. 1848
Lawrence, William, Esq., Bread-street, 30, Bread-street .. 1848

THE FOLLOWING HAVE PASSED THE CHAIR.

Hunter, Sir C. S. Bart., Bridge Without; 23, Euston-square .. 1804
Thompson, W. Esq., M.P., Cheap; Upper Thames-street .. 1821
Key, Sir John, Bart., Langbourn; 3, Abchurch Lane .. 1823
Laurie, Sir Peter, Knt., Aldersgate; 7, Park-square, Regent's-park .. 1826
Farebrother, C., Esq., Lime-street; 6, Lancaster-place, Strand .. 1826
Copeland, W. Esq., M.P., Bishopsgate; 37, Lincoln's Inn-fields .. 1829
Kelly, T., Esq., Farringdon Within; 17, Paternoster-row .. 1830
Wilson, Samuel, Esq., Castle Baynard; 24, St. Paul's Church-yard .. 1831
Marshall, Sir C. Knt., Bridge Within; 43, Russell-square .. 1832
Pirie, Sir John, Bart., Cornhill; Birch Lane .. 1834
Humphrey, J., Esq., M.P., Aldgate; Hay's Wharf, Southwark, .. 1835
Magna, Sir William, Bart., Vintry; College-hill .. 1838
Gibbs, Michael, Esq., Walbrook; 33, Walbrook .. 1838
Johnson, John, Esq., Dowgate; Millbank .. 1839
Carroll, Sir George, Candlewick; 34, Cavendish-square .. 1840
John K. Hooper, Esq., Queenhithe .. 1840

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(3) DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—Major-Gen. A. Galloway, K.C.B., Upper Harley-street.
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(2) John Loch, Esq. (3) William Butterworth Bayley, Esq.
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(3) John Masterman, Esq., M.P. (4) Francis Warden, Esq.
(1) John Petty Muspratt, Esq. (1) Martin Tucker Smith, Esq., M.P.
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(3) Russell Ellice, Esq. (3) Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq., M.P.
(3) Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B. (4) Major-Gen. James Caulfield, C.B.

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William Joseph Eastwick, Esq. John Clarmont Whiteman, Esq.
Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., M.P. Sir Henry Willock, K.L.S.

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QUEEN'S BENCH.—Lord Chief Justice, Lord Denman. Judges, Sir John Patteson, Sir John T. Coleridge, Sir Wm. Wightman, Sir Wm. Erie.
COMMON PLEAS.—Lord Chief Justice, Sir Thos. Wilde. Judges, Sir Thos. Colman, Sir Wm. Hen. Maule, Sir Cresswell Cresswell, Sir Edward Vaughan Williams.
EXCHEQUER.—Lord Chief Baron, Sir Frederick Pollock. Barons, Sir James Park, Sir Edw. H. Alderson, Sir Robert M. Rolfe, Sir Thomas J. Platt.

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Liverpool, Walter Skirrow, Esq., and Perry, Esq.
Manchester, Ebenezer Ludlow, Esq., Sergeant, and Wm. Thos. Jemmett, Esq.
Leeds, Martin John West, Esq., and W. S. Ayrton, Esq.
Bristol, H. J. Stephen, Esq., Sergeant, and Richard Stevenson, Esq.
Exeter, Edward Goulburn, Esq., Sergeant
Newcastle, N. Ellison, Esq.

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